



An emaciated refugee comforts his daughter at the Wad Sharife camp in southern Sudan. The skin on the child's head is her only clothing. Picture by Wendy Wallace

Relief effort swamped by exodus

THE EXODUS of refugees from Ethiopia into eastern Sudan, now running at the rate of several hundred men, women and children every day, has created "the biggest disaster area in Africa," according to the London office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Reports from Sudan yesterday said that at the Wad Sharife reception centre there have been up to 50 deaths a day from famine or disease, and Sudan Red Cross officials were quoted as saying "in despair."

Mr Stephen Sinclair-Lockit, UNHCR's information officer, said last night: "Ethiopia has been like an abscess, and it is now emptying itself into the Sudan."

There was an immediate need for the pouring of cooking oil, powdered milk and other staple foods, he said. The land bridge carrying freight from Western Europe to Kassala had so far provided tents, blankets, water carrying and storage equipment, as well as high protein food and medical supplies.

UNHCR estimates that about 200,000 Ethiopians have crossed the frontier in the past year, joining about 500,000 already in Sudan. It was impossible to differentiate between those moving solely in search of food and those who were running away from Ethiopia's internal war.

In Geneva, the UNHCR confirmed yesterday that the Sudanese Government had approached the office to help to reassemble Jewish Falasha refugees who fled to Sudan from Ethiopia. A spokesman said that the UNHCR was willing to help "if another Government accepts them," opening the way for transfer of the remaining Falashas to Israel.

President Numeiri of Sudan has reportedly agreed to allow the transfer to continue under the auspices of the United States or the UNHCR.

In Wad Sharife, meanwhile, a nine-man Swiss team, the only permanent relief workers on the site, are unequal to the task even of providing basic medical care for the thousands of refugees from the Ethiopian drought and war. As the Swiss struggle to cope it is reported that another 300,000 refugees are on their way across the border. David Hirst, page 18.

Tough Government stance as talks about talks fizzle out

Thatcher puts a damper on pit peace hope

By Keith Harper
Labour Editor

The Government and the National Coal Board last night committed the miners' strike to run on for some time yet as they dismissed yesterday's tentative talks between board officials and Mr Peter Heathfield, the NUM's general secretary, as a waste of time.

The talks took place as a further 1,847 miners returned to work for the first time, the highest daily total this year, bringing the total figure in 1985 so far to around 7,700.

Encouraged by the groundswell of returners, the Government made it clear that it was only interested in talking with the NUM once more than half the miners were back at work.

NCB and NUM officials were last night trying to gauge from these Downing Street signals whether the Government was engaged in a softening up process.

Yesterday's brief period of optimism came when Mr Ned Smith, the NCB's director of industrial relations, met Mr Heathfield in London to discuss the dispute. It was the first time informal contacts had been established between the NCB and the union since both sides met across the table at the conciliation service, ACT, at the end of October.

Mr Heathfield said he was trying to arrange preliminary talks, but within an hour of the meeting Downing Street had placed a heavy damper on such prospects an indication of how closely the NCB and the Government are maintaining links.

Mr Smith, who is due to take early retirement from the board next week, appeared to have been responsible for arranging yesterday's meeting. But it was suggested from Hobart House, the NCB's headquarters, last night that in some part he had been acting on his own initiative. This was indirectly confirmed after the meeting had concluded when Mr Michael Eaton, the Board's chief spokesman said: "Nothing following today's talks brings direct negotiations nearer."

Mr Heathfield then joined his colleagues, Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, and Mr Blicke McGahey, the NUM's vice-president, in talks with TUC leaders at Congress House. He stressed that it had been on the initiative of the Coal Board that he had met Mr Smith yesterday. "I was invited by the NCB to discuss certain aspects of the dispute," he said.

During last night's long session with the TUC the NUM leaders brought Mr Norman Willis, the TUC's general secretary, up to date on the progress of the strike since their last meeting before Christmas. Mr Scargill explained that the NUM's full executive was prepared to meet the NCB for talks on the dispute. He also briefed Mr Willis on the position of the breakaway movement within the NUM, led by Nottinghamshire, which threatens to engulf South Derbyshire and Leicestershire.

The TUC leaders made it plain to Mr Scargill that it would serve the interests of the union and the Labour movement best if the strike was resolved quickly. Mr Scargill argued, however, that the Government and the NCB were standing fast on their position that management had the ultimate right to decide if pits should be closed on economic grounds, and that if the NUM did not concede this point there was no opportunity for a deal.

As he left last night's meeting, Mr Scargill made it clear that the union was still prepared to enter negotiations "without any preconditions." He hoped that the Coal Board would respond in a similar manner, and that there would be a resumption of talks between the two sides.

Mr Scargill explained that the outcome of Mr Heathfield's meeting with Mr Smith would be reported to the full NUM executive in Sheffield on Thursday, and Mr Smith had promised to report back as well.

Turn to back page, col. 5

Austin Rover files for strike damages

By Patrick Wintour
Labour Staff

AUSTIN Rover is seeking damages against the eight unions involved in last year's abortive two-week pay strike. The strike led to lost production worth £150 million at showroom prices, although the company's loss because of the strike will have been substantially lower.

The damages claim, the first sought by a publicly-owned company, is being brought under the Trade Union Act 1984 which removes civil immunity from a union if a strike is called without a secret ballot. The Austin Rover strike was called after a show of hands.

Austin Rover said last night: "We made it abundantly clear at the beginning of the strike in November that we would not take any legal action against the unions for this strike. We would see the process through. The unions have only themselves to blame."

Within days of the strike starting last year, the company won injunctions against six of the eight unions on the joint negotiating committee. The electricians' union and the engineering union avoided injunctions by repudiating the strike and refusing members to return to work. Five of the other six unions appeared in court later during the strike and in one form or another, disowned it. The Transport and General Workers' Union refused to appear in court or withdraw official backing from the strike and was fined £200,000 for contempt of court. Austin Rover declined to initiate proceedings which would have led to the sequestration of the union's assets.

Under the act, unions with between 5,000 and 25,000 members cannot be sued for more than £50,000, unions with more than 25,000 members face a maximum claim of £125,000 and unions with more than 100,000 members cannot be sued for more than £250,000.

In theory, the electricians, the engineers, the GMBTU, the TGWU, the builders' union UCU and the technical union TSS could all face damages claims of £250,000. The other two unions involved, the pattern makers and the metal mechanics, would not face damages claims of more than £50,000.

Under the legal procedure Turn to back page, col. 5

M1 pile-up as thaw sets in

By Susan Tibbitt

A woman was killed and 14 people injured when 27 vehicles piled up on the M1 in Northamptonshire yesterday.

Visibility was poor after an electrical storm started a fire in a heavy goods vehicle on the hard shoulder. "Smoke suddenly billowed across the car, roadway like a thick smog," police said.

The southbound carriageway was closed for most of the day as emergency workers freed the injured and cleared the debris.

The dead woman was Miss Elaine Kenny, aged 19, of Neneby Road, Rugby. Six patients were detained in hospitals in Northampton and Rugby last night, one was said to be in a critical condition.

There was flooding in the south and west of England and Wales yesterday as blizzards and heavy rain swelled rivers. Some roads in the west country, Sussex, Kent were two or three feet under water.

At Brockenhurst, Hampshire, a road bridge collapsed and a railway bridge subsided, stopping trains between Southampton and Bournemouth.

Drinks in the Bore and Sossallie, Kent were unable to cope with the thaw and heavy rain. Canterbury council was preparing sandbags.

Several roads were impassable, and a fire started around Dartmoor, but the level of most rivers was subsiding by the afternoon.

Picture, page 4

Chill wind blows as Reagan takes oath

From Alex Brummer
in Washington

In a scene reminiscent of the informal tableau of America's founding fathers gathered in Philadelphia, President Reagan yesterday delivered a hopeful inaugural address in the ornate rotunda of the Capitol which dwelled on the themes of prosperity, and peace, and a new era of American leadership.

Mr Reagan, 72-year-old President, the oldest man to take the oath of office, was chased inside the Capitol for America's 56th inaugural celebration by a ferocious Arctic wind which transformed Washington into an early Siberian wasteland.

With his family, members of Congress, advisers, and a few hundred supporters gathered around him, Mr Reagan read directly from the printed page of his script in a low-key, modulated fashion, more like a parliamentarian delivering an address during a debate than a president seeking to uplift a nation.

Outside, the formal banks of seats on the west steps of the Capitol and the vast stands for broadcasters remained empty as gusts of wind-scattered snowflakes in clouds made luminous by the bright sunshine.

In his short, thematic address, Mr Reagan strongly questioned the doctrine of mutual assured destruction, which has been at the centre of NATO's defence strategy for more than 30 years. He asked the people watching on television: "Is there either logic or morality in believing that on one side threatens to kill tens of millions of our people, our only recourse is to threaten to kill tens of millions of theirs?"

Mr Reagan, dressed informally in a dark suit and red, white, and blue striped tie, argued that the Star Wars defensive system he has ordered be developed could change all this. Such a defensive shield, he said, would not kill people, but destroy weapons; it would not militarise space, but help demilitarise the arsenals of the earth. It would render nuclear weapons obsolete.

"We meet with the Soviets hoping that we can agree on a formula for ridding the world of the threat of nuclear destruction," he said, speaking like the true believer he is in the strategic defence initiative. But his willingness to abandon unilaterally the doctrine which has kept the peace for so many years is certain to be a cause for divisiveness within the Atlantic Alliance.

Evoking the optimistic and patriotic mood of his first term, Mr Reagan told those gathered around him: "In this blessed land, there is always a better tomorrow. We are creating a new America, a rising nation once again vibrant, robust and alive."

But he acknowledged that there were several mountains which had to be climbed, many in the very building in which he stood. This would require the nation to come together, not as Democrats or Republicans, but as Americans united in this common cause."

Turn to back page, col. 2

NEWS IN BRIEF

Agent left India

SHE INDIAN government said yesterday that an agent of a foreign power — apparently meaning France — left the country after the discovery of a spy ring. Report page 7; Indian files, page 19.

Warm-hearted

THE GOVERNMENT has extended cash help for people on supplementary benefit whose fuel bills are rising because of the cold weather. Page 4.

New party

A GROUP of socialists has launched an addition to the plethora of Ulster political parties — the Labour Party of Northern Ireland. Page 3.



"I'm just slipping down to the Defence Ministry for a take-away."

Acorn falls

ACORN, the Cambridge home computer firm, saw its share price fall yesterday and announces plans today — but denies any possibility of going out of business. Page 20.

Black demand

BLACK Labour Party activists have stirred up a hornets' nest by suggesting that MPs with fat majorities should make way for black candidates. Page 19.

Market moves

FOUND up 0.0030 to \$1.1253; FT index down 0.5 to 1003.9; Dow Jones up 34.01 to 1261.57. Markets, page 22.

Return to work builds up

By John Ardill
Labour Correspondent

Another 1,874 members of the National Union of Mineworkers abandoned the strike yesterday, bringing the total membership back on strike to more than 75,000, the National Coal Board said.

The figure for the day and afternoon shifts was the second highest recorded, and reflects a continuing growth of momentum in the back to work movement after the Christmas holiday. Yesterday's figure compares with 1,330 last Monday, 1,203 on January 7, and the record of 2,190 on November 19. On past experience it suggests that the NUM membership of 187,700 could be back at work within a month.

The NUM continues to dispute the figures, and in a special edition of its journal, The Miner, says the numbers have been "blatantly falsified."

According to the NUM, the "not on strike" figure includes thousands absent through illness or other reasons.

The highest back to work figure yesterday was in the Northeast, where the NUM president, Mr Arthur Scargill, addressed miners' meetings over the weekend. The NCB said that 685 had gone back to work for the first time there. The NUM branch secretary at

Aslington, Mr John Smith, said he doubted the figures, and accused the board of sending fleets of buses, some of them empty, into collieries to break the morale of pickets.

In Yorkshire the NCB claimed 689 new faces, including 158 at Kiveton Park colliery, some of whom had been picketing the pit. A spokesman said they brought the total number working at the pit to 801, but the workers' NUM branch president, George Smith, said the return was a "dribble" compared with the number of strikers.

The Denby Grange pit near Barnsley began coal production yesterday, bringing the total of producing pits to 73.

DPP denial over jury vetting

By Richard Norton-Taylor

The Director of Public Prosecutions denied last night that he had requested that the jury to try Mr Clive Ponting should be vetted.

The denial, by a spokesman for the DPP's office, will cause controversy since in 1980 the Attorney-General Sir Michael Havers, told the Commons that he would only authorise jury vetting "following a recommendation by the DPP."

Mr Michael also said that Special Branch checks on potential members of the jury would be authorised "only when national security is involved and it is expected that the court will be asked to sit in camera."

At the Ponting committal hearings on October 9 prosecution counsel stated: "There is no suggestion that the material disclosed (by Ponting) in fact damaged national security."

Special Branch officers yesterday began the vetting procedure for the Ponting trial, which starts at the Old Bailey next Monday.

Last week prosecution lawyers successfully applied for at least part of the trial be heard in camera so that the jury could be vetted.

They made the request after the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, said that the full version of a top secret report on the sinking of the General Belgrano in 1982 should be submitted as evidence, rather than an edited version that had been prepared.

Mr John Morris QC, the shadow Attorney-General, yesterday challenged Mr Heseltine to clarify his role in the affair. He said: "I'm baffled by suggestions that a minister of the crown has had a hand at all in the prosecution." It was difficult to believe, he added.

Leader comment, page 10

Lester Piggott to retire

Lester Piggott, 11-times champion jockey, is to retire but the details have yet to be finalised. Piggott's agent, Mike Watt said: "While the intention to retire in the foreseeable future is confirmed, no firm date has been set. There are potential riding commitments after the coming flat season ends on November 8. At this stage it is not possible to say when or where his last ride will be."

Piggott, who will be 50 in November, is currently on a working holiday in Los Angeles and will ride at Bay Meadows, San Francisco on Saturday.

Frank Keating, page 25

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The weather

SCATTERED showers. Details, back page.

he weather

SCATTERED showers. Details, back page.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE

Austria	28 sch	Greece	100 dr
Belgium	45 fr	Holland	3.25 gld
Denmark	8.50 kr	Italy	1,800 lire
France	50c	Japan	26c
Germany	7.00 fr	Spain	170 pts
	3.50 dm	Switzerland	5 fr

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Prospect of NUT accord with Joseph

By Andrew Moncur

Union hostility to Sir Keith Joseph's scheme to impose a system of appraisal on teachers gave way to dialogue and the prospect of agreement — yesterday.

Leaders of the National Union of Teachers met the education secretary and emerged speaking of a major step forward, finding common ground, and of Sir Keith's sympathy and sincerity.

An NUT proposal that there should be talks about wider issues was accepted. And the Department of Education and Science will now attempt to bring other teaching unions and the local authority associations into the discussions.

There was considerable agreement on the value of a system of appraisal to support the professional development of teachers and the most effective management of the teacher force.

The meeting was requested by the NUT after Sir Keith gave notice in November that he was prepared to legislate to introduce an appraisal system unless employers and teaching unions agreed their own scheme.

The NUT stressed yesterday that it had never opposed the removal of teachers who were irredeemably incompetent. But authorities already had power to seek their dismissal.

It favours instead a jointly-agreed system which would concentrate on being of benefit to teachers. On this point the union side found itself in agreement with Sir Keith.

"If he is sincere, and I believe he is, then he really stands four-square with the teachers," said Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the NUT.

The meeting did not deal with the issue of linking any system of appraisal to improvements in teachers' pay. It is now clear that Sir Keith is by no means committed to the idea.

In an interview with Professor Ted Wragg of Exeter University, to be broadcast tonight on the Radio 4 programme, *Crisis in Education*, he appears to distance himself from the local authority employers who have put forward a package linking merit payments to appraisal.

"It may be there is an option and I shall be interested to hear arguments about that. You realise that although the Government... has encouraged the idea of appraisal, the particular proposals put forward are those of the employers and not those particularly of the Government."

"But it may well be that a system detached from pay might make sense — I am open to argument about that," Sir Keith says.

Scottish teachers last night stepped up their campaign for an independent pay review. The Educational Institute of Scotland, the country's biggest teaching union, said its members would not carry out any filling and some other duties for certificate exams.

The union said this would cause "inconvenience or even chaos" for exam administrators, but said there should be no permanent effects for pupils.

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Exam boards bow to the calculating child

By Andrew Moncur, Education Staff

THE RISE of the pocket calculator in school exam rooms, and the decline of well-thumbed log tables, is identified as a sign — or possibly a sign — of the times in a survey published today.

It shows that virtually all examination boards now permit candidates to use calculators in at least some of their mathematics papers. And half of them positively require pupils to be all keyed-up, in the electronic sense, before sitting certain exams.

A problem for the exam-

ing bodies seems to be that certain calculators are too clever by half. Some have expressed concern about models which have a better memory than the owner's, and others are having calculators capable of storing programmes prepared in advance.

The problem from mathematics teachers' point of view is that the examination boards have not accepted calculator-aided candidates swiftly enough. The Mathematical Association, which carried out the survey, wants to go further and faster.

Learning the mysteries of long division and multiplica-

tion will not number among the tasks facing primary school children if the maths teachers have their way.

Instead, they will also work with calculators, which are already being used by some infant pupils from the age of six — when they can be dragged away from the school computer, that is.

Miss Margaret Eastwood, who chairs the association's sub-committees which have investigated calculator use in examinations and their place in primary schools, is convinced that they are a useful addition to the pupil's school kit.

They remove a great deal

of the drudgery of mathematics which can obscure the relatively pleasurable business of problem-solving.

"You used to get terribly bogged down with all the number work and lose sight of what the problem was all about," she said yesterday.

The survey was prompted by the 1982 Cockcroft report on mathematics teaching which said that examination boards should work on the assumption that all candidates would have access to a calculator by 1985. That point has not yet been reached, the survey shows.

Most GCE and CSE boards still prohibit use of calcu-

lators in some papers. But by next year they will be permitted, or required, in the majority of maths exams.

The densely-packed log tables which have accompanied generations of pupils to the exam room are in decline. The Yorkshire and Humberside board for instance, will cease to see that they are supplied from next year.

Miss Eastwood's working party is turning its attention to devising new approaches to examination questions for pupils aged 16-plus, based on the assumption that all candidates will have a calculator.

Miss Eastwood, a lecturer

at Manchester Polytechnic, is not at all sure that the superior, pre-programmed calculators are such a bad thing.

"One argument is that if people know how to use a calculator, they ought to be able to use it in an exam," she said. "Up to O-level, I don't think it would help them at all."

After that, when pupils have to deal with such abstract problems as calculating the area under a curve, a calculator's memory could be put to use.

Some examiners have rumoured that they insist on candidates showing all their calculations.

Stop-go excavation for a seam of definition

NUM general secretary Peter Heathfield yesterday met Ned Smith, NCB industrial relations director, to see if there was any basis for reopening negotiations on the pit strike. Patrick Wintour considers the prospects for a negotiated settlement to the dispute which has now lasted nearly 11 months.

THROUGHOUT the talks held between the National Coal Board and the miners' union, three issues have been in dispute — the current status of the board's March 6 proposals, the future of five threatened collieries, and the definition of a colliery deemed to be "exhausted."

As yet, the two sides have not found a mutually satisfactory form of words to cover any of these issues.

The board's position is that it has conceded as much as it can and no useful purpose will be served in reopening talks given the acceleration in the return to work. The NUM believes that it has made concessions and that it might yet be possible to find a formula which could satisfy both sides.

A review of past negotiations shows that each side can adduce evidence to support its claim.

It was by mid-July that possible peace proposals were beginning to take coherent written shape. On July 15, the board tabled its proposals, which opened with the paragraph: "On March 6, the NCB put forward proposals designed to influence the prospects of the industry and to equate production with market requirements."

There have been losses of production output resulting from the dispute and changes in the needs of the market. In the light of these changed circumstances, the board will examine the pro-

posals for the industry and revise the objectives for the individual areas."

The NUM alternative read: "In the light of the changed circumstances, the board will withdraw the proposals and re-examine objectives for the industry in line with Plan for Coal."

On the five collieries, the NCB said they will continue in operation. Any future decision relating to these (and other collieries) will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines under section 3 below.

The NUM's view of the five pits was marginally different. It said that the five "pits would continue in operation in line with the NUM's submissions. Any future decisions relating to other collieries will be dealt with in accordance with guidelines under section 3 below."

In section 3, the NCB said that pits which could not be "beneficially developed" could be closed or pits could be closed if their combination would not represent a "reasonable use of human and financial resources." The NUM rejected this.

During September the conciliation service, Acas, with the help of the TUC, kept closer towards an involvement in the negotiations. After the \$2.5 per cent vote in favour of strike action by the deputies' union Nacods, Acas believed that the time was ripe for new talks and



ARRESTING MOMENT: Four people, including a NUM branch official, were arrested during a march to the pit gates at Hatfield main colliery, near Doncaster, yesterday. About 700 strikers, wives and children took part. Picture by Don McPhee

brought the sides together. A number of different proposals were put at four days of talks at Acas which ended in failure on October 15. At the talks, Acas said it put forward only one proposal of its own.

The key passage in the Acas proposal read that any colliery not covered by earlier clauses dealing with exhaustion of reserves or geological difficulties "may be brought forward by either party for discussion and investigation in line with the principles of the Plan for Coal under the colliery

review procedure. The review procedure will be amended to include as a final stage an independent review body whose function will be to consider a reference from any one of the parties to the procedure on any closure matter about which there is disagreement. Full weight will be given to the advice of this independent body."

The NUM, however, stuck to its insistence that the future of collieries must be considered in line with Plan for Coal, rather than the principles of the plan.

In further separate talks with Nacods the board extended the role of the independent review body so that it need not consider just pit closure issues, but also pit investment issues. On the five pits, the NCB told Nacods that they would "remain open to be considered in common with all other pits under the modified Colliery Review Procedure."

Describing this modified and extended review procedure, the board wrote that its five-yearly production plans "would reflect both

production and market opportunities." The NUM responded to this phrase by saying in a general commentary on the Nacods proposals, "the reference to the market and to production opportunities in the board document are a clear departure from Plan for Coal." As such they were unacceptable.

On the March 6 proposals, the board told Nacods: "The proposals will be completely reconsidered with all the unions in the light of the loss of output which has occurred as a result of the dispute and the changes in the market, arising also from the circumstances of the dispute. The board will consider the proposals for the industry and revise the objectives for the individual areas. A new set of objectives will be prepared for each area to reflect the changes in possibilities available at the time the dispute ends."

On October 24, the Nacods executive accepted this formula, which the Government and the NCB insisted represented their final offer. The NUM was then left isolated but nevertheless at talks at Acas on October 31 made strenuous efforts to find a settlement.

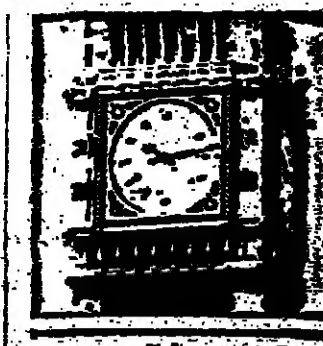
At the October 31 talks the NUM shifted ground somewhat on the increasingly academic question of the March 6 proposals. Instead of the NCB agreeing to withdraw the proposals, the NUM wanted the board to agree that "it should not proceed with the proposals."

The NCB argued, however, that the March 6 proposals also contained investment plans which had been implemented and therefore it would not be possible to say that the proposals would not be proceeded with.

On the thorny question of whether pit closures should be in line with the Plan for Coal or the principles of the Plan for Coal, the NUM suggested that it would accept the phrase "in line with the broad strategy of the Plan for Coal."

Mr Scargill has never admitted in public that the NUM accepted the phrase "broad strategy" and indeed during an interview on BBC television at the weekend refused under repeated questioning to reveal the phrase.

At all events, the NCB rejected the formulation, abandoned the talks and for the past 10 weeks has been attempting to cajole miners back to work.



David McKie

Rhoda's an oddly elusive Rhino

JUST who is Rhoda the Rhino? This is the question tormenting Mrs. Thatcher's shadow Foreign Secretary, Denis Healey, compared the Prime Minister to her during a characteristically rumbustious assault on the Government in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Healey was supposed to be speaking on the second reading of the Hong Kong Bill and at some points actually did so. Indeed, at one stage he even uttered Heffresque threats that further proceedings might be "a matter of life and death."

He said that the foreign secretary saw the sense of his complaints about the limitations of Orders in Council.

The bill's main offence, in Mr Healey's eyes, is the powers it gives the Government to bring in constitutional change, even to create a new category of citizenship through a procedure which rules out all chance of amendment.

If he knew what was good for him, apparently the Foreign Secretary would at least have to consult the Order would be presented to the House in such a way that adequate consultations could take place here and in Hong Kong before it became frozen in its final form.

Hardly enough, you might think, to sustain more than half an hour's onslaught, but Denis was not going to be deterred by niceties like that. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the

Parliament, page 4

butt of so many lovingly-fashioned insults over the years, came in for further punishment. This bill, said Mr Healey, in a sense brought down the curtain on a chapter in our history that began with the Opium Wars and there could be no more appropriate than this Foreign Secretary to terminate such an episode.

Mostly though, it was the Prime Minister he wanted to knock out a bit. Mr Healey was at his best, the lowest and most brutal tactic of all: praising the Foreign Office. "What nobility," he mistily declaimed, "I perceive in the patient merit of these public servants!" How often they had saved Mrs Thatcher from disaster, a debt we all owed them, and none more than the Foreign Secretary and she whom he served.

What a contrast, too, between Mrs Thatcher's first Far Eastern tour and her second! Here was the most conspicuous U-turn in a politician who had now accomplished so many that she was becoming the embodiment of Mao's doctrine of permanent revolution. Not only had she initially set most of her opponents' teeth on edge, she had spread such havoc that the Hong Kong Stock Exchange was only now recovering. On her second visit, she had gone down better in China, but in Hong Kong itself she had outdone even Mr Healey (whom in many ways she so clearly resembled) by her chilly insensitivity.

He asked for Sir Geoffrey's assurance that he would never again allow the Prime Minister to go on banging about like Rhoda the Rhino in her arrogant incompetence on issues she simply did not understand. If he did so, Mr Healey added, he would certainly get plenty of support in the Cabinet: not least from his successor as Chancellor after the "hair-raising irresponsibility" of Number 10 over the pound last week.

But who is Rhoda the Rhino? Roland Rat is familiar enough at Westminster, and no doubt some of the stage still remembers Mr Healey and Reggie Rabbit from their yellow Rupert books. But is Rhoda the Rhino some much-loved figure from the books of Mr Healey's childhood, now otherwise largely forgotten? Or did he simply make her up?

Sir Keith Joseph had the honour in which the trouble when he treated it to some childhood reminiscences in winding up a local government debate before Christmas. "One of the books I remember," he told them, "had the peculiar title of 'gobbo Bobbo' or 'The One-eyed Griffin'. It was a curious mixture of the history of London interspersed with distasteful facts. There was a witch in it called 'Bordibus Skimbun'. A voice from the Labour benches: 'But she's not here tonight.'"

Action on benefit cuts 'relevant to all strikes'

By Penny Chorlton

A STRIKING Nottinghamshire miners yesterday took the Government to the High Court, accusing it of acting unlawfully in cutting supplementary benefit payment to strikers' families.

Mr Nicholas Bland, of Retford, Nottinghamshire, was joined by the TUC and the National Union of Mineworkers in his attempt to have the deductions outlawed. Mr Frederic Reynolds, QC, counsel for Mr Bland and the TUC, told the court that the implications of the case were "very considerable."

Mr Bland — in common with all other striking miners — has been having £15 a week deducted from his family's supplementary benefit.

Mr Reynolds told Lord Justice May, sitting with Mr Justice Taylor, that if the Government lost the case, a substantial sum of money would be owed to the strikers' families.

He said the case turned on two pieces of legislation, the 1976 Supplementary Benefits Act and the 1980 Social Security Act (No 2). He would seek to show that the former act had made an exception of married and cohabiting couples and that the



Nicholas Bland: seeking to declare deductions unlawful

Government sought to block the High Court hearing of Mr Bland's case on a legal technicality. Mr John Laws, counsel for the chief adjudication officer of the DHSS argued that judicial review was an inappropriate method of dealing with the case.

Mr Bland should have taken his case through the "statutory appeal route" to the Supplementary Benefits Commission.

The case continues today.

Breakaway organiser rebuffed

By Patrick Wintour

ONE of the leaders of the Nottinghamshire miners' breakaway group, Mr Colin Clarke, has been rebuffed by his union branch at Fye Hill colliery, which has voted to invite the miners' president, Mr Arthur Scargill, to speak on the national union's dispute with the Nottinghamshire area.

Mr Clarke is pit delegate to the area union council and president of the National Working Miners Committee, which has masterminded many of the legal actions against the NUM. He argued against inviting Mr Scargill, and walked out in protest at the decision.

Mr Dene Bradley, a striking miner at the colliery, said the decision to invite Mr Scargill stemmed from dissatisfaction among branch members about the way some officers were building through a breakaway, without giving members information or a vote.

A branch meeting of Cotgrave miners in South Nottinghamshire has voted 90-81 not to make available any of the branch's £15,000 hardship fund to striking miners.

Votes bill wrangle may reduce election deposit

By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Government and opposition whips were last night locked in negotiations over the contents of the Representation of the People Bill.

The Government was flatly refusing to back down over its proposal to extend the vote to British citizens living abroad and those away on holiday.

It is understood that ministers are prepared to compromise on their proposal that the election deposit should be raised from £150 to £1,000, but will proceed next week.

possibly by agreeing on a figure of £500.

The opposition, led by the shadow home secretary, Mr Gerald Kaufman, warned that unless agreement was reached the bill's passage might be disrupted.

The Government hoped to obtain all-party agreement for the constitutional measure, but after the bill's second reading, the committee stage on the floor of the House has been held up by the wrangling.

Government whips hope that raised form £150 to £1,000, but will proceed next week.

Cash fear for World Service

By Dennis Barker

A split is developing in the Government and the BBC over the financing of the BBC External Services.

At present the services are funded by the Foreign Office at a cost of £77 million a year. A Joint BBC-Foreign Office inquiry is expected to suggest that the service should be financed on a longer-term basis, instead of from year to year.

The services have been given one per cent less than they wanted for next year. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has also refused a request by the BBC for £700,000 to compensate it in non-striking areas for the weakness of the pound.

However, some of the External Service broadcasters fear that a long-term guarantee of funds which would improve planning could also provoke a Treasury or Foreign Office demand for a greater say in the running of the service.

Complaint over BBC rejected

The Broadcasting Complaints Commission has rejected a complaint that the Scottish Nationalist MEP George Yemm, Ewing, was unfairly treated after criticism of her by a political opponent in a live broadcast direct from the Scottish Parliament last May.

Tory county proposes 8.6pc rate increase

By John Carvel, Local Government Correspondent

The 1985 council budget season opened yesterday when the Tory-controlled county of North Yorkshire recommended a rate rise of almost double the present rate of inflation.

The council leader, Mr John Clout, explained that more than half the 8.6 per cent increase will be due to cuts in central government grant.

Similar grant problems are expected to afflict other loyal Conservative shire counties.

Mr Clout said this would rate increases over the next few weeks in spite of the fact that they will be going to the polls in May for the four-yearly county elections.

North Yorkshire is to trim its original spending plans by Mr Clout said this would be done by making £3.5 million of economies on committee budgets and £10.5 million worth of "creative accountancy."

Tory MP calls two-class caning bill a 'nonsense'

By Andrew Moncur, Education Staff

CONSERVATIVE backbenchers are likely to voice strong criticism of the Government's corporal punishment bill — which would divide children into those who may be caned and those who may not — when it gets its second reading today.

Mr Harry Greenway, MP for Ealing North and deputy chairman of the Tory backbench education committee, described the proposal yesterday as "a nonsense."

Punishment Bill is designed to enable parents to exempt their children from the risk of being beaten at school. It obliges schools to keep registers of all children who are liable to the rod.

The Government has been compelled to take action because of a judgement by the European Court of Human Rights, which ruled that parents who object to corporal punishment being inflicted on their children have a right to have their wishes observed.

The solution the

Government proposes has met with widespread opposition from teachers' unions, which believe that it is unworkable and could actually create disciplinary problems.

The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (Stopp) has written to all MPs calling on them to amend the bill to scrap all corporal punishment in schools. "It is certain that future European Court rulings will compel the Government to ban beating altogether," the society's briefing paper says.

"Corporal punishment is an immoral, barbaric, damaging and counter-productive practice which should be entirely eliminated from our education system."

The National Association of Head Teachers has told MPs that the Government should have the courage of its convictions and fix a date for phasing out beating, instead of introducing a measure which would bring about abolition by the back door.

The Children's Legal Centre, on the other hand, has

stated that far from discouraging discredited practice, the bill would give official blessing to it in all parts of the education system — including nursery schools.

It claims that the Government is trying to hinder abolition by local education authorities and could increase the number of schools which use beating.

Mr Greenway said he will not vote against the bill's second reading, because its opponents are, he believes, trying to turn it into an abolitionist measure.

Fire 'suicide'

Mohammed Asfar, aged 50, an unemployed father of three, of Salford, Birmingham, was believed to have killed himself yesterday by pouring paraffin over himself and setting it

HOME NEWS

Report for DPP suggests paint thinner accident may have intensified blaze

New clue to Deptford fire deaths



By Stephen Cook
Police in south London are preparing a report for the Director of Public Prosecutions which contains important new evidence about the possible causes of the house fire which killed 13 young black people at a party in Deptford four years ago.

A girl who was at the party has apparently told detectives that she accidentally spilled nail varnish the previous day on the carpet of the room where the fire started. She said a friend who died in the fire tried to clean up the mess with paint thinner or similar inflammable liquid.

Police have been working for some time on the theory that one of the adults at the party set light to curtains in the room because he was jealous about his girl friend's behaviour and wanted to bring the party to an end. They believe that he had no intention of killing anyone.

At one time police believed that paint thinner had been deliberately poured on the carpet and ignited.

The fire is now thought to have spread suddenly and violently because of the inflammable fumes still lingering in the room after the accident. An inquest in 1981 returned open verdicts on the 13 who died.

The committee of bereaved parents, who have developed good relations with the police during the lengthy investigation are apparently frustrated at what they see as police reluctance to put pressure on the adults at the party who are thought to know what happened.

Mr George Francis, chairman of the committee, said yesterday: "Scotland Yard should do a bit more to get these people in and question them thoroughly."

"All we want is to know what happened to our children that night. If the police are saying they can't do any more, we are going to take it into our own hands and do something. We are the ones who are sitting here and suffering."

Although the police are interviewing again many of the party survivors, they have not yet managed to find any direct evidence supporting the theory of the man starting the fire out of jealousy.

The man they suspect has been interviewed, but has stated that he was not at the party, although police have statements from others that he was there. Some of the other adults at the party are declining to talk to the police on the advice of their solicitors.

People close to the police investigation say privately that there is little expectation that the DPP will authorise a prosecution, given the absence of conclusive evidence and the strong racial and political feeling surrounding the case.

The Massacre Action Committee, which was formed to give legal help to the families of the dead and became the focus of the racial and political controversy, has claimed consistently that the police are determined to pin the blame for the fire on a black person at the party, using leaks to the press.

One police source said yesterday: "We would have preferred to have conducted everything confidentially, but the nature of the case prevented that. It was too controversial, there was too much heat, it was turned into a very big issue and people demanded answers."

If the report to the DPP does not result in criminal proceedings the police will have to have to decide whether to issue a full public statement giving a full account of what they know, and whether to wind up the two-man team which has pursued the investigation.

TERENCE'S STAMP: The launch of a new issue of train stamps was signalled by the arrival at Marylebone station yesterday of the Sir Nigel Gresley, the locomotive most often used to pull the Flying Scotsman, bearing the stamp designer, Terence Cuneo. Picture by E. Hamilton-West

New Labour Party launched in Ulster

From Paul Johnson in Belfast
An addition to the plethora of political parties in Ulster, was announced yesterday, with the formation of the Labour Party of Northern Ireland.

The party, not to be confused with the long-established but now virtually defunct Northern Ireland Labour Party, is the brainchild of a group of socialists including the veteran trade unionist and politician, Mr Paddy Devlin and Lord Billy Bleasdale, the Labour life peer.

It aims to recruit members, primarily through trade unions and newspaper advertisements, who are concerned about the economic and social problems of the province and who are disillusioned with Mrs Thatcher's government.

Candidates will be fielded in the local government elections in May and a general meeting to elect a committee and draw up rules will be held later in the year. The new party is to be wholly independent of the British Labour Party, although it is hoped that fraternal links will be established with the mainland and the Irish Labour Party.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Devlin refused to speculate on the party's policy on the constitution — essentially whether or not to campaign for a united Ireland. That will be decided later by the membership.

Mr Devlin, a founder member of the Social Democratic and Labour Party and former health and social services minister in the Stormont power-sharing executive, said the party would be anti-sectarian. It would be unequivocally opposed to political violence and recognise the equal validity of all traditions in Northern Ireland.

According to Mr Devlin, the British Labour Party, which does not organise or campaign in Northern Ireland, had failed to recognise that there was a desire in the province to have an internally run Labour Party which would not be imposed from outside and would not be dominated by the issue of the union with Britain.

The Official Unionist Party is to launch a campaign aimed at having Sinn Féin banned.

Terrorist on parole

From Paul Johnson
A Special Branch agent who informed on the IRA but was later imprisoned for 18 years on terrorist charges has been given weekend parole and could be released in August.

Anthony O'Doherty, aged 34, of Portlaoine, County Antrim, had his sentence reduced by eight years in 1984 by the then Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr James Prior. He was given the 18-year term in 1981 but it was cut because of the help O'Doherty had given the security forces as an informer against the IRA in the South Derry area.



Paddy Devlin — against political violence

Ammunition thief is gaoled for six years

By a Correspondent
A Royal Ordnance factory quality controller who became obsessed with "collector mania" was yesterday gaoled for six years for stealing ammunition and a rocket launcher.

Wesley Harris, aged 58, stole everything from explosives to soap from the Royal Ordnance factory at Radway Green, Alsager, in Cheshire, and it took four policemen two weeks to clear the stolen property from his home in Heath End Road, Alsager.

At Chester Crown Court Harris admitted conspiracy to steal and three charges of theft and asked for eight other offences, including stealing explosives, to be considered.

Mr Gareth Edwards, prosecuting, said Harris was the most knowledgeable man on ammunition production in Britain.

He said: "The offences were an abuse of trust by one very peculiar man acting alone, connived at by no other employee with the possible exception of his own son."

Peter Harris, aged 21, an apprentice, had resigned in disgrace. Charges of conspiracy to steal against him and his mother Eva Harris, aged 50, were ordered by the judge to lie on the file.

Mr Edwards said Harris kept diaries for 10 years listing everything he stole and sold. One of his main customers, a former policeman turned arms dealer Anthony Chapman, aged 39, of Fointry Square, Norton Green, Stoke on Trent, was gaoled for three years on Saturday after a jury had found him guilty of two charges of receiving stolen ammunition.

Mr Edwards said that one of Harris's customers had committed suicide. A case was pending against one man. The MOD estimated that the value of property stolen was at least £46,000.

When arrested in January 1984, Harris, who earned £1,000 a month after tax, had more than £75,000 in bank and building society accounts. This had been frozen pending civil proceedings. Harris, who suffers from tuberculosis, is suspended without pay and claiming £27 a week social security.

Doctors seek changes in drugs list scheme

By Andrew Vetch, Medical Correspondent
The Social Services Secretary, Mr Norman Fowler, has been told privately by South-west Thames regional health authority, which covers 1,600 hospital doctors, that he will have to make radical changes to his plan for a limited drugs list if the system is to work.

A confidential document drawn up by doctors and endorsed as the region's official view by the regional medical officer, Dr David Wild, recommends that:

The list should apply to all patients, private as well as NHS — under Mr Fowler's proposals, doctors would be able to prescribe banned drugs privately for those who can afford to pay.

Drugs should be selected and appeals heard by a committee, with the expertise to command the respect of doctors and pharmacists — decisions are being taken in private at present by civil servants and a handicapped by the fact that no patient should be disadvantaged by being restricted to drugs available within the NHS.

The specialists are concerned about the minister's failure to come up with a mechanism for selecting drugs dealing with appeals and making changes.

Army murders charge

A 36-year-old Army corporal was yesterday charged with the murder of two soldiers and a retired Army officer when he appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

Corporal Andrew Walker, of the First Battalion The Royal Scots, based at Birkhall Camp, Birkhall, Midlothian, was remanded in custody after the 15-minute appearance. He is also charged with the robbery of a £19,000 army payroll.

Deputy Fiscal Mr Kenneth Maciver said the soldier had been charged with last Thursday's shooting of Major David Cunningham, aged 56, formerly of the Pioneer Corps, Staff Sergeant Terence Bosker, 38, of the Royal Army Pay Corps, and Private John Thompson, 25, of the King's Own Scottish Borderers.

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Nevertheless, we do have our share of real-life dramas, of every type from the comic to the tragic.

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And they'd be talking about dramas in which they'd

Just as important is a sense of fair play; a sense of duty; a sense of humour; and last but not least, plenty of common sense.

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For further information, phone (01) 725 4575. Write to the Appointments Officer, Careers Information Centre, Dept. MD 963, New Scotland Yard, London SW1H 0BG. Or visit us at our Careers Information Office in Victoria Street.



Army scientist tells Australian Commission the effects of fallout could only be guessed

Atom test servicemen 'removed gas masks'

By Gareth Parry

The senior army scientist responsible for the radiological safety of personnel during a British atom test in the Pacific 23 years ago said yesterday: "We had no accurate knowledge of what the fallout would be from a bomb of this particular nature. It was something entirely new. We could only guess."

Major-General Alec Walking, retired, told the Australian Royal Commission in London that Operation Hurricane, carried out in the Montebello Islands, was the first test when scientists were able to measure contamination over a large area of ground. The bomb was exploded in shallow water.

Ninety-one survey expeditions were made to the islands by servicemen after the blast. Many of these veterans now claim nothing was done to protect them against radiation fallout which they say resulted in diseases and fears of genetic defects.

Major-General Walking said that servicemen conducting surveys were given gas masks to protect them from breathing radioactive dust. But it was very hot in the Montebello Islands. "There was a change in the orders to modify the requirement to wear gas masks because surveys were, after a long time, more likely to die from heat stroke than radiation," he said. Some men returned from the island having then on their respirators and the radiation level at which masks should be used

"was so safe that it was safe to double it." Major-General Walking told the Commission that nine men who returned to the health control ship, HMS Tracker, were heavily contaminated after walking about for between 20 and 40 minutes on an island. The men, who had been conducting measurements of radioactivity, had to take seven showers before they were considered clean. But one man had to be given special chemical decontamination.

Mr Peter McClellan, the counsel appointed to assist the Commission, asked the witness what the special process was and was told that it included covering the patient's skin with a paste, containing chalk, and then scrubbing his skin with a nailbrush, using diluted Teepol.

"Teepol" — that's soap, isn't it? asked counsel. "Yes," replied Major-General Walking. The Major-General told the Commission that the primary objective of the test was to explode the bomb and study its aftermath. But the safety of personnel from radioactive harm was "a major consideration — a number one consideration." He said that the idea of people suffering from radiation many years later was "a commonplace understanding — this goes back to the workers painting luminous figures on watches."

"The overall safety policy was that no man was to be exposed to any radiological exposure unless such exposure was essential to the execution of the operation," he said in written evidence.

When the Hurricane bomb exploded, there was an order that all personnel should be miles away from Ground Zero, "except for a small party who stayed behind, on a small island 11 kilometres away to carry out the firing and ignition."

But safety rules were changed again when the British task force began to run out of supplies of protective clothing towards the end of the operation. "We changed the rules so that people could wear the same things twice, but the increased (radiation) dosage permitted was insignificant."

The maximum safe level of radiation dosage at the time was considered to be three roentgens. But measurements of as much as 10 R were also considered safe. Major-General Walking, who returned from the Pacific with a 2.87 R dose, said yesterday: "I think people then and now think the philosophy is better no dosage at all than some dose. I understood at the time that any dose was something you could do without."

As the task force sailed for home contaminated radioactive material, much of it Bunker, was dumped in the ocean. "Some contaminated material which floated away on the tide was destroyed by rifle shots until it sank," said the Major-General. "The material was of such a low level (of radioactivity) it didn't warrant following procedures." A laboratory found, however, was carried to the Indian Ocean and dumped there.

Observer 'should be in the dock'

By Paul Keel

Counsel defending a civil servant accused of selling confidential information to the Observer said yesterday that the paper was not in the dock. Mr Paul Chadd QC, defending Raymond Williams said in his concluding speech: "The jury that it was almost unbelievable that one person could be accused of being corrupt in accepting money while the party which had paid the money was not so accused."

The absence of the Observer in court had meant that the newspaper had been unable to defend itself and had been unable to cross-examine its representatives.

But Mr Justice Talbot told the jury at Bristol Crown Court that the fact the Observer was not in the dock made no difference to the trial.

Beginning his standing up at the end of the four-day trial in which Mr Williams, aged 38, a former senior executive officer with the Ministry of Defence in Bath, has denied corruptly accepting a total of £1,500 from the newspaper in return for information, the judge said: "Whatever views I might have about whether or not the Observer should be in the dock with the defendant or whether they should be prosecuted at some future date, these views are irrelevant. It would not be right for me to express them."

"The fact of the matter is they have not been prosecuted and put in the dock and you have not to try this case alone."

Mr Chadd said that the jury had to decide whether Mr Williams had been open, "corrupt or lunatic" in handing over information to a national newspaper in the hope of ingratiating himself into some permanent form of employment with it.

For the prosecution, Mr Michael Broderick suggested that everything Mr Williams had done was entirely consistent with someone seeking to sell information to a newspaper and entirely inconsistent with someone seeking a job.

Earlier, Detective Constable Richard Law said the Observer and its editor had been "as helpful as they thought they could be in the circumstances" when he was making enquiries about the whereabouts of Mr Williams.

The hearing continues.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Aids man out of hospital

THE Bournemouth Aids patient whose blood donations infected four people and put 38 others at risk was discharged from hospital at the weekend, writes Andrew Vetch.

"His illness appears to have gone into remission and there is no reason for him to be in hospital although he will be seen regularly," said a Wessex health authority spokesman.

Secondary school costs study

THE Audit Commission, an independent body set up by the Government two years ago to improve local government economy and effectiveness, is to investigate teaching costs in secondary schools.

It intends to look at how teachers spend their time and how their work interests with that of non-teaching staff, with the aim of identifying good management practice in the light of falling school numbers.

Contractors used to break strike

PRIVATE contractors were yesterday sent across picket lines by a Labour-controlled South Wales council to clear tons of rubbish piled up in a five-week strike.

Refuse collections in the Rhondda and other services like meals on wheels have stopped since the start of the strike by 350 Nalge members over possible cuts in job vacancies as part of a staff reorganisation plan.

New home for badger family

A badger family which has been damaging an hotel's golf course in Croydon is getting a new home as guests of the University of London.

Ministry of Agriculture officials have given permission for the badgers to be trapped and transported a few miles to Egham, in the grounds of the university's Royal Holloway College in Surrey.

Aid with payment of fuel bills extended to additional areas

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

A substantial extension of government help for people on supplementary pensions or benefit to claim more money to pay rising fuel bills was announced by the Department of Health yesterday.

The claims area has been extended to cover the whole of South-east England, the South-west, west Wales and the Midlands. Amounts payable will depend on the severity of the weather in the regions concerned.

Merseyside and Scotland are excluded because the Meteorological Office say that temperatures there have not dropped as much as in southern England and the Midlands.

A disabled man who was facing nearly £4 a week benefit deductions to pay for arrears in heating and water bills while he appealed against a social security ruling died while he was trying to keep warm. He could not afford to light a gas fire.

Mr Dennis Griggs, aged 61, of Ashburton, Devon, built up gas and electricity arrears in the winter of 1982 because he did not know that he could claim severe weather payment towards his heating. His problem was compounded by his belief that his water rates would be paid under the new housing benefit scheme. He built up arrears of £124.30.

Last year social security commissioners found that a tribunal which dismissed his case had made three errors in law. The commissioners ordered that a new tribunal should be convened to hear his case.

The tribunal was told yesterday that Mr Griggs died earlier this month, four days before notice of the hearing was sent to him.

Mr Bill Jordan, reader in social studies at Exeter University, who advised Mr Griggs, said yesterday: "The situation is tragic. His death highlights a lot of things that went wrong with the system. It is wrong that someone facing such deductions should have to wait so long for things to be resolved."

He added: "Mr Griggs died of a heart attack while he was in bed trying to keep warm because he could not afford to put his gas on."

Dublin cautious on consultation idea

From Joe Joyce

The Irish government has given a cautious welcome to the suggestion by the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, that its views on the province might be channelled through some kind of consultative machinery.

Mr Hurd put forward the proposal during a weekend interview on Irish Radio. The Republic's foreign minister, Mr Peter Barry, called it interesting but said more details were needed.

The consultation idea was also welcomed by Mr Jim Molyneux, leader of the Official Unionists.

The suggestion was generally interpreted by Irish officials yesterday as marking a new conciliatory tone towards the Republic.

Relations have been slightly frosty since last November's Anglo-Irish summit ended disastrously for the Irish Premier, Dr Garret FitzGerald, when Mrs Thatcher rejected the three main options of the New Ireland Forum report.

Mr Hurd then specifically ruled out any role for Dublin in running Northern Ireland. Dr FitzGerald's coalition government has pinned its hopes on progress towards some joint Anglo-Irish control, especially before May's local elections in the North, if only to keep Sinn Féin politically at bay.



A Transit van crushed between lorries after a 30-vehicle crash on the M1 in Northamptonshire in which Miss Elaine Kenny, aged 19, of Rugby, died and 15 people were injured.

THE DAY IN POLITICS

No special rights to settle here after China takeover—Howe

HONG KONG

By Alan Travis
SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday announced to the House of Commons a new form of nationality — British National (Overseas) — to cover the rights of the 3 million people living in Hong Kong in the years up to and beyond the handing over of the colony to China in 1997.

The Foreign Secretary said that the new form of nationality should have broadly the same benefits as the present British Dependent Territories Citizenship, except that it would not give holders no special rights to settle in Britain.

The Foreign Secretary faced demands during the second reading debate of the Hong Kong Bill, in the Commons to clarify whether the new nationality conferred the right to settle in the United Kingdom; for annual reports on Hong Kong to the Commons, and for more time to be given to the Hong Kong Bill to allow objections to be voiced. Dissent also centres in the nationality change being conferred through an order in Council rather than a full Parliamentary bill.

Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, said that Sir Geoffrey's task of clearing the way to the handing over of power when the 99-year lease of Hong Kong New Territories expired had not been made easier by the intervention of Mrs Thatcher during her two visits to Peking and Hong Kong.

"He should not allow her to go barging about like a Rhoda the Rhinoceros with the usual arrogant incompetence in issues that she clearly does not understand," Mr Healey said, adding that her first visit to the last negotiations had needed "all the skill of the Foreign Office to undo the damage caused."

Sir Geoffrey said that holders of the new status would be able to use British passports. "They will be eligible for British consular protection in third countries. They will have a right to registration as British citizens on the same terms as BDTs. In short, the order will in effect redefine the scope of the British Nationality Act, 1981, to cover the new status where it is appropriate."



Mr Healey: 'PM acted like Rhoda the Rhino.'

"The order will also set out the circumstances in which persons who might become stateless as a result of these provisions, and the children born after July 1, 1977, to holders of the new status, if they would otherwise acquire a form of British nationality, which will be British overseas citizenship."

Obviously there is much to do between now and 1997. It will require the closest co-operation between ourselves and the Chinese Government. It will also require the closest consultation throughout with the people of Hong Kong.

"The most immediate task will be the establishment of a joint liaison group provided for in the agreement. We are now actively working on this. The Governor of Hong Kong is in London this week, and my discussions with him will include this important subject."

Mr Healey said that the Prime Minister's position on Hong Kong had been through so many U-turns that she appeared to subscribe to Mao Tse-tung's policy of permanent revolution. He said the Foreign Office had led to an agreement on the handing over of power which would provide vital experience and important set of precedents when it came to the Falklands.

Mr Healey demanded answers to a series of detailed points, including whether or not the Governor-General of

Hong Kong would be a member of the House of Lords, whether there would be annual reports to the Commons on Hong Kong, and whether the 5.5 million people living in Hong Kong would be consulted when the Chinese authorities drew up the basic laws for the running of the area after the handing over.

He supported the creation of the new form of citizenship, but asked whether it was desirable that it should be done through an Order in Council.

Mr Andrew Faulds (Lab. Warley) warned that non-Chinese Hong Kongers could be left in a "ghostly limbo of limbo" if there were not assurances on their position.

Mr Peter Brumfield (Con. Leicester) demanded to know whether the new form of citizenship would confer priority on those from Hong Kong who wanted to come to the United Kingdom to settle.

Sir Geoffrey replied: "There is no intention to effect or imply any change of this kind."

Mr Kenneth Powell (Ulster Unionist, South Down) said there was no precedent for a new category of British nationality to be created by an Order of Council and not by primary legislation.

It was no use pretending that a common British nationality carried no constitutional implications, indeed, the terminology was calculated and intended to deceive.

He said that it was not difficult to envisage changes in the internal regime of China which would lead to those in Hong Kong considering settling in the United Kingdom. "If those circumstances arose 'we would be put into the dock,' said Mr Powell."

We would be told that we had chosen to give these people a British passport and we would be asked: "How, then, can you refuse admission to your country — the country of British citizens — to those people who claim the right to enter implicit in the documents which you have given them?"

PIT DISPUTE

THE GOVERNMENT and the coal board would be prepared to talk about the definition of economic pits if the miners' leader, Mr Arthur Scargill, would, too, the Welsh Secretary, Mr Nicholas Edwards, told the Commons yesterday.

He added during question time that 40 per cent of the NUM had now returned to work and that was the reason "why there is a sudden interest apparently among leaders of the NUM to negotiate."

Mr Edwards said he would attend the meeting later this week between the Energy Secretary, Mr Peter Walker, and senior churchmen when they will put their proposals for ending the 46-week strike.

Mr Jones called on the Government to encourage a negotiated settlement which would heal the divisions in our society.

Mr Edwards stressed: "Of course we will encourage a negotiated settlement." But in the negotiations to date Mr Scargill had not moved an inch while the coal board "has moved."

Mr Dafydd Elis Thomas (Plaid Cymru, Merionnydd North Conway) urged the Welsh Secretary to "listen with a contrite heart" to the Welsh churchmen's proposals.

Mr Edwards said he would listen most carefully to any ideas the churchmen had. But he added: "I don't for myself see... how another general review of the mining industry, on top of the three that we have had in comparatively recent times, is going to help."

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Ready to discuss if Scargill is — minister

He was urged by Mr Don Anderson (Lab. Swansea) to look at the definition of economic pits to ensure that social factors like the future of mining communities are taken into account.

Mr Edwards said: "I would be very happy, and so would the coal board, to look at the definition of economic pits if Mr Scargill was also prepared to look at and discuss the definition of economic pits and negotiate about economic pits. It is his refusal to do so consistently throughout this dispute that has got us to the situation we are now in."

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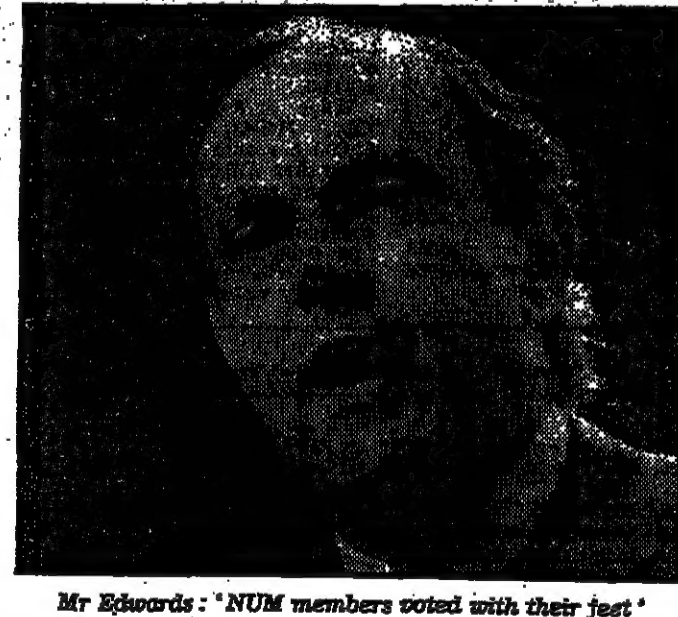
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Mr Edwards: 'NUM members voted with their feet.'

Labour girds for next election campaign

By Colin Brown

The new committee which will include shadow cabinet ministers, trade union leaders and members of the National Executive Committee, will not be expected to take final decisions but will report to the NEC.

The NEC tomorrow will be asked to approve the first items on its campaign budget, which party is determined not to repeat the mistakes it made in the 1983 election only eight months before polling day and which was felt to be unwieldy.

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One of the most delicate decisions the committee will have to decide is how to answer the image builders behind the Prime Minister, Mr Margaret Thatcher, and Gordon Rees, Labour officials have already been taking advice from professional consultants and may hire a top flight advertising agency to send tremors through the old-style Labour Party workers.

A key role in the planning will be played by Mr Robin Cook, who this week announced he was dropping his EEC front bench portfolio to concentrate on his Shadow responsibilities for campaigning.

The party campaign planners intend to concentrate on the positive messages of the alternatives presented by their policies and will be spending more to ensure they get across to the public, despite the alleged bias of the media. It is likely that one fundamental change will be in the ending of the daily morning press conferences at Smith Square. As Mr Healey said, "The public are likely to be held only when Labour feel it is necessary and will in the main depend on providing 'media opportunities' through the day."

The problem for the Americans, according to Mr Healey, is that although they are willing to count the British and French deterrents in the strategic arms negotiations to reach an agreement, the Soviets are likely to point to the escalation of warheads which the Trident D5 system will represent over the existing Polaris deterrent. It is estimated that Trident warheads will number nine hundred, compared to Polaris's sixty-four.

If the Soviet Union argue about the figure, it is Mr Healey's contention that the Americans will rethink the wisdom of selling Britain the Trident deterrent because it could then represent a formidable stumbling block to any agreement.

The Government is extremely sensitive to any attack on its decision to purchase Trident. Mr Michael Heseltine, is fighting hard against Tory backbench dissenters who say it is too expensive and want to purchase sea-launched cruise missiles instead.

Mr Heseltine is due to announce to Parliament, possibly next week, the updated estimate of the cost of Trident, which Mr Healey yesterday put at £12 billion compared with the previous estimate of £9 billion. Even this figure may be out of date after the recent fall in the pound against the dollar.

BOC complaint

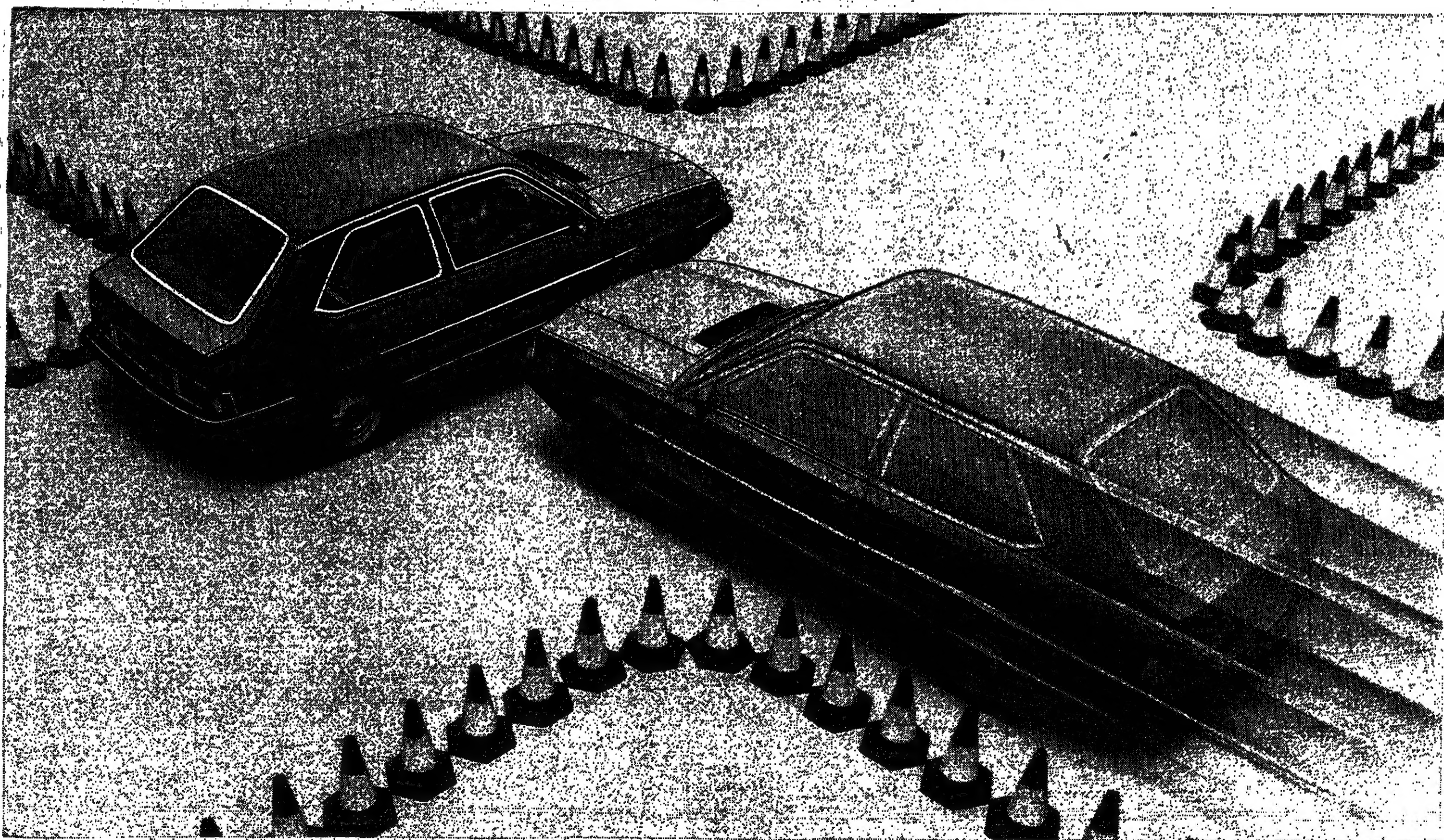
The Public Accounts Committee, Parliament's watchdog on government expenditure, yesterday said it would review a complaint about the British Oxygen Company at a meeting later this week or early next.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Workington, a member of the committee, believes BOC committed contempt of Parliament by quoting part of a transcript of the committee's hearing in a letter to the Guardian threatening legal action or a complaint to the Press Council unless articles about the company were retracted.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Greek pressure is blamed for failure of New York meeting

UN chief still hopeful after collapse of Cyprus talks

From Jane Rosen

A number of obstacles had remained, but the draft provided for working committees to resolve some of them. Mr. Perez de Cuellar also expected Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denktash to negotiate the other main issues during the meeting, or at least to refuse them.

The obstacles included the precise territory the Turkish-Cypriots would return to the Greek-Cypriots, a timetable for withdrawal of Turkish troops from Northern Cyprus, and the question of international guarantees for the agreement.

There were in fact no negotiations. Instead, the two sides fought about whether they had previously agreed to the basic constitutional framework, with Mr. Denktash insisting that it had been settled and Mr. Kyprianou demanding the right to renegotiate many of the issues in the draft agreement.

Leading UN officials believe that the deadlock was largely due to the conflict between Greece and Turkey. These officials, who have handled the Cyprus conflict for years, said that initially, Turkey put heavy pressure on Mr. Denktash to end the partition of Cyprus and accept reunification, as provided in the draft.

Turkey is interested in a Cyprus settlement for one main reason: as long as Turkish troops remain in Cyprus, the US Congress is likely to maintain its restrictions on US military aid to Ankara — and Turkey badly wants more aid.

The UN officials said for precisely that reason, Athens was concerned about the effect of a Cyprus settlement. One of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's aides, asked whether Greek pressure was a factor in Mr. Kyprianou's refusal to endorse the draft, replied: "Are you serious? The pressure was so heavy that we are now afraid it might not be possible to solve Cyprus except in the context of the Greek-Turkish conflict."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar spent most of the last two days of the meeting conferring separately with Mr. Kyprianou, and he was partially successful. On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Kyprianou offered to accept the agreement and limit negotiations to a few disputed issues. If he had made the offer at the beginning, there might have been a successful outcome.

It turned out, however, that the enmity between the two sides was too great. The meeting opened last Thursday, Mr. Denktash was ready to sign, but Mr. Kyprianou raised objections. Late on Sunday, Mr. Kyprianou reluctantly yielded and then was Mr. Denktash who refused.

The draft agreement provided for a federal republic, with Greek and Turkish-Cypriot states exercising broad local autonomy. Under it, Turkish-Cypriots would hold 29 per cent of the island's seats in the executive and legislative bodies, while Greek-Cypriots would hold 71 per cent.

There was provision for a veto to protect minority rights.

Poles discount plot against Jaruzelski

By Hella Pick

The Polish leadership now denies that a political conspiracy was directed against General Jaruzelski, thus reversing its original public assessment of the implications of Father Jerzy Popieluszko's murder.

The clearest indication of this came yesterday when the official party paper, Trybuna Ludu, said that the trial of four secret police officers implicated in the murder had produced no evidence suggesting a broader plot.

Trybuna Ludu, which has been reporting the Torun trial extensively, said yesterday that, from the proceedings so far, "there does not follow anything that could prove that, apart from the four defendants, there had been still other persons who intentionally encouraged, ordered, or endorsed the murder."

Three members of the Interior Ministry, Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, and Lieutenants Pekala and Chmielewski, have admitted kidnapping and killing Father Popieluszko last October. The fourth accused, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, has denied any connection with the official plot, or the cover-up.

Piotrowski's secretary, Barbara Story, yesterday confirmed that Pietruszka had been aware of Piotrowski's movements on the day of the kidnapping, and had ordered her to delete this from an official report to the team investigating the murder.

General Platek, of the Interior Ministry, said that he also had come to the conclusion that Pietruszka was involved, at least in the cover-up. General Platek, the most senior official in the witness box so far, has been suspended from duty for lack of supervision of his subordinates, and is reported to have resigned his commission.

Evidence heard yesterday from a Torun parish priest confirmed earlier reports from Solidarity sources that several people had been kidnapped and harassed in the area where Father Popieluszko was seized. The pattern had been similar: invading cars, guns, and handcuffs.

A confidential government memorandum submitted to the court described Father Popieluszko as the head of a counter-revolutionary organisation, the Polish Solidarity, which was closely linked to "Western espionage centres" and Polish exile groups.

Dated September 17, 1984, it was sent by the Minister of Religion and Church Affairs, and demanded urgent action to stop his counter-revolutionary activities.

Initially, President Napoleon Duarte had hoped to put together a national consensus of the parties which took part in last year's elections with the aim of pressing the FDR/FMLN guerrilla leadership to

end its armed struggle and its part in a election. But Mr. Major Roberto D'Ambrósio, the leader of the ultra rightwing party Arena, has called the first two meetings on a vote of no confidence in the government, and a "smoke screen" to deceive the people. Army officers are also concerned that the talks held in October and November were a tactical move to gain recognition of the FDR/FMLN.

The talks have not yet gone far beyond the reading of opening statements by each side, in which the wide gap between them was revealed. President Duarte says he is not ready to adjust the present Constitution and the guerrillas must accept it.

They have put forward a three-stage programme under which a new provisional government would be created, far-reaching reforms would be enacted, and a new national

Hunger strike sparks fears of wave of terrorism in Germany

Anna Tomjorde reports from Bonn on the too familiar tactics of terror

THE USE of a pram in an attempted terrorist attack on Sunday has come as a vivid reminder to West Germans of the peak of leftwing extremism in 1977.

Bader-Meinhof activists in that year pushed a pram across a street in Cologne to stop the car carrying Mr. Hans Martin Schlager, the Employer's Federation leader, whom they abducted and later killed.

The murder, accompanied by the hijacking and storming by an elite German anti-terrorist unit of a Lufthansa airliner in Mogadishu, and the controversial prison suicides of Bader-Meinhof leaders, marked the darkest chapter in postwar German history and is something Germans have never got over.

Late on Sunday, a 28-year-old previously convicted terrorist was killed and his female companion was seriously injured in an attempt to bomb an IBM computer centre in Stuttgart.

The Chief Public Prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe named the dead man as Johannes Thimme, who has twice before been convicted for belonging to a terrorist organisation.

His accomplice, Claudia Wenzel, was seriously injured by shrapnel. The pair were transporting the explosives in a pram, but the bomb exploded prematurely, police said. The authorities believe the attack was staged in support of the hunger strike by Bader-Meinhof prisoners.

Another bomb exploded early yesterday in West Berlin, damaging insurance company offices, next to premises belonging to IBM, believed to have been in the target, but no one was injured in the attack.

Since the start of a hunger strike by 28 Bader-Meinhof prisoners and sympathisers on December 4, the daunting picture of terrorist violence is slowly beginning to unfold again. There have been more than 40 petrol bomb and arson attacks on NATO and German industrial targets since the fast began, and once again the extremists and the authorities refuse any compromise.

The Government is trying hard to avoid an outbreak of fresh hysteria over the conflict, but it is aware that the taste of a prisoner will spark off an escalation that will harden confrontation at home and reopen the debate abroad on how the Germans deal with those challenging the democratic state.

The authorities, while underlining that the latest wave of attacks has been preceded by increased recruitment of leftwing radicals, as well as growing international cooperation between extremists, also make clear that the terrorists' capacity to stage spectacular attacks is not what it was in 1977.

They say that some 20 hardcore Bader-Meinhof activists are still at large, and that the recent formation of a new group, the "Red Army Faction", is an "anti-imperialist" front in Europe "consists widely of 'spontaneous supporters' of extremist goals. The number of 'sympathisers' is estimated to be 400."

Apart from the apparent attempt on Sunday night to blow up a computer centre in Stuttgart, the attacks have largely been focused on American and allied targets, including an attempted car bombing before Christmas on a NATO officer's school in the Bavarian Alpine village of Oberammergau. The explosives were defused.

Since 1977, Bader-Meinhof, "Red Army Faction", Gudrun Russlin, and Jan-Carl Raspe died in the Stuttgart-Stammheim prison in October, 1977, extremist prisoners have not been allowed to join their colleagues on rounds in the prison yard, Mr. Schubert said.

He said that since the height of the terrorist scare in 1977, all Bader-Meinhof suspects, whether sentenced or in pre-trial detention, had been kept in strict isolation, broken only by brief encounters in the court room.

All prisoners are held in specially erected top security wings with no cells on either side, and are subjected to a sophisticated system of optical and acoustic isolation. Mr. Schubert said. Visitors must speak to them through bullet-proof glass, and are not allowed to hand over any written materials, with guards constantly watching.

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Flashback to terror: a girl is arrested (top) after the 1981 Bader-Meinhof funeral and a detective (above) holds a bazooka used in an attack



Flashback to terror: a girl is arrested (top) after the 1981 Bader-Meinhof funeral and a detective (above) holds a bazooka used in an attack

most extremists reject taking often refuse repeated visits part in prison walks which they describe as a "camouflage for the maintenance of isolation."

The authorities confirm that extremists are kept in isolation because of "security requirements," but point out that it is the prisoners themselves who most obviously refuse to join in communal exercises. They also maintain a strict control of mail, and like tigers in a cage," he said.

Mr. Schubert cited continuous stress symptoms, depression, loss of weight, stomach ulcers, hormone problems, and hypersensitivity to noise as the most obvious results of isolation.

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Escape from the demi-Monde

By Walter Schwarz

LE MONDE is to adopt "simpler and more colourful" language, stop writing for "intellectuals" and to "groups" — a move to discontinue "welled personal attacks," its new editor-in-chief, Mr. André Fontaine, promised in a front-page editorial last night.

The changes — startling enough for the world's most uncompromisingly serious newspaper which publishes no news photographs — are only the start of the transformation Mr. Fontaine plans. He indicated that the paper would also shed its broadsheet page-size and adopt the tabloid format used by its competitors.

Mr. Fontaine was elected by editorial staff last week after his predecessor, Mr. André Laurens, had failed to win approval for plans to save the paper, which had accumulated a \$7 million deficit.

In his lengthy article — not yet an example of the new simplicity and colour — he also promised more readers' letters and art reviews. He confirmed that outside capital would be invited to support the trust which owns the paper, despite strong "tradition against this." He promised that the new investors would be diverse, clearly identified, and would remain at all times in a minority.

The most far-reaching change may come from the "burial" and "financial review" of the paper's structure, also promised by Mr. Fontaine. This is expected to curb the paper's runaway democracy, in which editorial staff could veto important decisions and which had led almost to the rejection of successive financial rescue proposals. Mr. Fontaine indicated he wants to cut the journalists' voting shares from 40 to 16 per cent.

As an immediate economy measure, he confirmed that staff salaries would be cut from next month and that Le Monde's Paris presses would be shared with other newspapers.

If these plans went ahead, Le Monde would be a far more controlled and less democratic newspaper, Mr. Fontaine wrote. "I have no doubt that we will rapidly overcome the obstacles and produce a newspaper that gets better every day."

Grapo falls to police

From Jane Walker

A "MAJOR BLOW" was delivered to the urban terrorist gang, Grapo, at the weekend, the Interior Minister, Mr. Jose Barriomane, said yesterday after police sweeps in Madrid, Barcelona and five other cities.

The 18 suspected terrorists now under detention were all that remained of the group in Spain, although some members remain free, not in Spain.

Mr. Barriomane said that the group had been planning the murder of an army colonel, an important businessman, and the kidnapping of a leading Madrid industrialist against a \$50 million ransom. (About \$250,000.)

The police raids, conducted "without any shots being fired," yielded quantities of arms, explosives, ammunition, printing presses and propaganda leaflets. The police also uncovered 16 safe houses "used by the group."

Among those under arrest is Antonio Pedrero, alias "Charli," who is said to be Grapo's leader in Spain. Mr. Barriomane conceded that Manuel Perez Martinez, alias Comrade Arenas, whom he described as "the ideological leader," was not in Spain.

Grapo — October 1 Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Group — is a Marxist-Leninist organisation which emerged shortly before the death of General Franco in 1975. It is believed to have been responsible for 70 murders in the past 10 years, but appears to have little popular support.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Security accord 'this year'

THE Soviet Union expects a limited agreement to be reached at the European Disarmament Conference this year, following a US decision to schedule the accord ahead of schedule, Soviet diplomats in Stockholm said yesterday.

The first stage of the conference — the fifth session begins on January 29 — is due to last until November, 1985, but NATO diplomats said that the US had offered to conclude an accord on less complex issues in time for the tenth anniversary of the Helsinki agreement on August 1.

The Soviet diplomats said: "We expect an agreement in Stockholm this year. Perhaps not in the next session, but perhaps in the one after." They declined to give details.

N-ban tested

NEW Zealand said yesterday that officials would try to determine whether a US warship, scheduled to visit the country in March, was carrying nuclear weapons before allowing it to make any port calls. Wellington's policy on nuclear-powered or armed vessels was "absolutely clear and unambiguous and will be followed," the acting prime minister, Mr. Geoffrey Palmer, said.

Shoddy goods

SOVIET factories send unrequested and shoddy goods to the far north knowing that the people there have no way to return the products along frozen supply routes, Pravda said yesterday. "As a rule the goods are old models and low quality at that. They do it to fulfil their production plans," it said.

Jungles vanish

MORE than 27 million acres of the world's tropical forests are disappearing every year, the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation director-general, Mr. Edoardo Sautama, said yesterday in Rome. Forests in Europe and North America had been severely damaged by logging, he said.

Temple bombed

INDONESIAN terrorists yesterday bombed and seriously damaged the eighth-century Buddhist temple of Borobudur, in central Java, the Education Minister, Mr. Nugroho Notokusumo, said in Jakarta. He did not give any casualties, nor give an exact estimate of the damage.

Rapist seized

AN AMERICAN, who says he has committed 200 rapes since 1970, was arrested at the Miami home of a rape victim at the weekend. Ralph Miller, was charged with rape and only three rapes because charges cannot be brought for attacks that happened more than four years ago.

Rajah's revenge

A SINGAPORE magistrate yesterday sentenced a 35-year-old father to a week's jail for wounding a dog that ate his breakfast. Mr. Gajah Rajah, 35, pleaded guilty to attacking the black mongrel, named Rajah, twice with a machete last May.

Daredevil dies

A CANADIAN daredevil, Karel Soucek, died yesterday of a specially designed fall, plunged 180 feet from the roof of the Houston Astrodome to his death before 35,000 spectators at the weekend. The barrel missed a water tank meant to cushion the fall.

Dolphin victim

A DOLPHIN, mistaken for an armed North Korean spy vessel, was shot dead by two South Korean soldiers on Friday night near the port of Samchonpo, a military spokesman said yesterday.

Gamblers in death plane

RENO, Nevada: Sixty-five people were killed when a "gamblers' special" chartered airliner crashed and burst into flames in a field in the casino centre of Reno yesterday, police said.

Three people, including the pilot, survived the crash and four people on the ground suffered slight injuries.

The chartered Lockheed electra turboprop airliner, belonging to Galaxy Airlines, had just taken off from Reno bound for Minneapolis carrying in the main people who had spent the weekend gambling in the casinos of Reno and nearby Lake Tahoe when it crashed, police said.

A few seconds before the plane was to take off, it had been identified, had radioed to the Reno airport control tower that he was returning because he had felt vibrations on the plane.

— Reuters

Salvador puts on brave face as dialogue collapses

By Jonathan Steele

The dialogue aimed at ending El Salvador's civil war appears to have collapsed with no prospect of a resumption for at least three months.

The gloomy prognosis was announced by Monsignor Rosa Chavez, the Auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador, who has acted as mediator between the two sides. The ostensible reason is that the Government wants to wait until the national elections for the legislative assembly and for municipal offices are held in March.

But the real pressure against the talks has come from the rightwing political parties and sections of the army.

Initially, President Napoleon Duarte had hoped to put together a national consensus of the parties which took part in last year's elections with the aim of pressing the FDR/FMLN guerrilla leadership to

end its armed struggle and its part in a election. But Mr. Major Roberto D'Ambrósio, the leader of the ultra rightwing party Arena, has called the first two meetings on a vote of no confidence in the government, and a "smoke screen" to deceive the people. Army officers are also concerned that the talks held in October and November were a tactical move to gain recognition of the FDR/FMLN.

The talks have not yet gone far beyond the reading of opening statements by each side, in which the wide gap between them was revealed. President Duarte says he is not ready to adjust the present Constitution and the guerrillas must accept it.

They have put forward a three-stage programme under which a new provisional government would be created, far-reaching reforms would be enacted, and a new national

army be formed from the two opposing forces. Elections would be held at the end of the process.

President Duarte's failure to gain support for further talks is matched by another serious challenge to him from the right. Arena has made an alliance with the National Conciliatory party, the second largest conservative party, to run the November elections. The two parties already control the assembly, and they might now capture most of the town halls as well.

The leader of the FDR/FMLN, Mr. Guillermo Ungo, said yesterday: "The talks are not dead. The Government hasn't yet dared to kill them, but they are frozen. It was 'naïve' of Mr. Duarte to expect to have support for them from the right."

There was still common ground for talks, and the guerrilla side had suggested they be held before the end of this month, using as a basis the joint communiqué from the first talks in October which proposed a committee to investigate the causes of "humanising" the conflict and minimising civilian suffering.

The United States has decided to apply to Congress for increased military aid for El Salvador. In November, senior American officials were saying they were satisfied with the \$128 million approved by Congress for 1985, but they now want to raise this to close on \$200 million. Economic aid would go up from \$326 million to more than \$400 million.

In another bleak sign for a negotiated end to the region's tensions, the US has suspended bilateral talks with Nicaragua, suggested that a ninth round be held later this week.

Reagan's National Security Adviser, Mr. Robert McFarlane, returned from an announced trip to Central America.

The Administration says it rejects Nicaragua's "effort to portray the conflict in Central America as a bilateral issue between itself and the US."

The suspension of the talks may also be designed to clear the ground for a new application to Congress for aid to the counter-revolutionary groups fighting the Sandinistas.

US officials say that the ending of the talks does not mean Washington will turn to direct military pressure. The suspension was proposed by the Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon, and accepted with reluctance by the State Department. The two sides had met eight times since July, and Nicaragua had suggested that a ninth round be held later this week.

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THE UGLY SISTER

Michele Guinness — picture by Don McPhee

Scott with Princess Diana because they look alike. This may be where poor Ms Scott gets into trouble, because about money people expect her to behave like Princess Diana — like a true public servant — and they may think Melina is a bit of a disappointment when she behaves like an ordinary career girl. King

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ARTS GUARDIAN

W. J. Weatherby assesses the true talent of the young black comic superstar of Beverly Hills Cop

Eddie Murphy's law

Murphy the joker in London, pictured by Garry Weiser, and, below, as the policeman in his new film Beverly Hills Cop



LAST SUMMER it was Michael Jackson. This winter it is Eddie Murphy. Inevitably American show business seems to need a new superstar, every six months. And they grow younger and younger.

Michael Jackson was a 25-year-old Peter Pan when he won eight Grammys, including six for Thriller, and suddenly he was the media's Prince Charming in dark glasses, taking to the road with his brothers on a cross-country tour that broke all pop records. Prince, also 25, shot up as a contender in the autumn, but so far his appeal has been much more limited, failing to draw in all ages, all races and all classes like M.J.

Now Eddie Murphy has scaled the heights at mere 23, only five years after he left high school and got his start at an amateur night at the Comic Strip Club in Manhattan. Close to the top as a stand-up comic and movie comedian for the past two years, he has suddenly attained superstar status the only way no one can challenge: alone at the box office.

His first film, 48 Hours, was a share success with other established stars. With his latest, Beverly Hills Cop, he has made it on his own. Without back-up from any other big names, Beverly Hills Cop has grossed over \$30 million in less than a month, completely overshadowing some tough star competition, including the Clint Eastwood-Burt Reynolds comedy thriller, City Heat, a pair of sci-fi epics, Dune and 2010, and Francis Coppola's The Cotton Club.

So successful has Beverly Hills Cop been that a sequel has already been planned, possibly set in London, with Eddie Murphy playing the same character, a cheeky, charming, streetwise Detroit cop, investigating the English East End, a movie he made local. Hollywood scene in Beverly Hills, and no doubt, contrasting his brash style with the more sober London bobbies, and checking out the British racial scene from a black American's point of view. One suggested title is Pizzicilly Circus Cop.

Murphy wisely says he is interested, but only if the script is right. He has already proved that his wisecracking character needs an efficient vehicle. Best example is a movie he made with his fellow comic star Dudley Moore, stopped badly through script problems. The two stars were never brought together in a convincing way and the movie was left giving out of his hands. But through it he learned his lesson.

He has a six-movie contract with Paramount worth over \$20 million in his own production company, a survey that shows he is the most popular performer in America, especially with the young, and next month he begins a 23-city tour with his comedy act that may rival the Jackson four-in-popularity, and which he intends to film as Richard Pryor has filmed his. When you are as hot a property as Eddie Murphy, every show business door in America is open and everything you do has commercial value.

It says a lot about the state of the marketplace and people's prejudices that at a very lean time for black actors — A Soldier's Story is the only current American film employing more than a token black star — two successive superstars have both been black. This shows the extent to which the pop singer and stand-up comic markets are colourblind, whereas the more serious, challenging world of drama isn't, perhaps because reality can't be ducked there with a joke.

Eddie Murphy mocks everybody from black singing stars to white businessmen, but his insights aren't taken seriously. They are just laugh away. This may account for recent acts in which his humour has verged on hysteria, or perhaps this is just the price of having come so far so fast. Born in Brooklyn (his father was a policeman who died when he was three), schooled on nearby Long Island, and now living in nearby Alpine, New Jersey, far from Hollywood, he began as a night-club singer, padding out his act with comic routines, and quickly realised the jokes were what people wanted to hear.

To go from local night clubs to national prominence via Hollywood took the Bob Hope generation of comics years. Making it almost overnight, as Murphy has done,



is only possible in the TV generation. Once he began to appear regularly on Saturday Night Live, he was famous, recognised on the streets and courted by Hollywood.

Youthfully optimistic and black (and therefore hip to young whites), he began using satire as his comic weapon, in a way that left no wounds. If Swift is the measure of real satire, then Eddie Murphy is closer to being a clown with a big mouth, an impersonator without a cutting edge who merely charms and entertains.

Even Murphy's victims laugh at him. He is never

the eye for the giveaway mannerism, the high energy that blends it all together in a hilarious take-off — these are phenomenal qualities, but when hangers-on pronounce him a genius and he denies it, claiming geniuses are high IQ academic brain workers like scientists and not stand-up comics, then one senses the depth that would put him in the Chaplin class just isn't there yet, and he is not the ideal guide through the racial labyrinth of American society that his admirers claim he is.

If Bill Cosby is the genial, conservative family man among black comedians, and Richard Pryor is the wild, radical, Eddie Murphy is the middle-of-the-road, capable of flights as wild as Pryor's and a presence as genial as Cosby's but essentially somewhere between them, rejecting extremes where commitments have to be made and perhaps even meanings found.

"He is only 23" is the usual reply to any criticism of this latest idol, but American show business is no respecter of age. In another six months a new superstar will no doubt be taking over, and Murphy may become an ageing master like Michael Jackson. By then he will have to have a sure sense of his own talent or he will be sidetracked and even derailed altogether by demands that he live up to the box-office records of Beverly Hills Cop. If Murphy is serious about being another Chaplin, writing, directing and starring in his own movies, then he needs a vision of his own, a courage and complete self-education similar to Chaplin's.

In Beverly Hills Cop which opens in London this week, his fashionable combination of humour and violence, his topical targets, his brash self-confidence based on current mass market values that can shift overnight. Much of it is familiar, much of it is ingratiating, much of it is wildly funny, but overall it doesn't have an original view. Once planned for Sylvester Stallone, it was rewritten to fit Murphy's very different talent, and he embellished it with many funny touches of his own. It is essentially a star vehicle that runs smoothly along very familiar lines.

Murphy's career may ultimately depend on whether he is willing to give up safe star vehicles and go his own way at whatever risk to box-office takings. The overwhelming success of Beverly Hills Cop has established him so well that he is now free to make any movies he likes. His choices will answer most of the key questions about Eddie Murphy and his powers of survival.

Alex Hamilton reviews the new paperbacks

Lady of Bohemia

Two Flamboyant Fathers by Nicolette Devas (1986, Hamish Hamilton, £4.95). The memories of a woman, 38 when she wrote it, who is a genuine artist with words and with a brush despite a self-mocking modesty. It is essentially a book about the men and gods in her life: her husband, the portrait painter Anthony Devas, whom she met as a fellow student at the Slade; her brother John, a Dylan Thomas, who married her golden honey-pot sister Caitlin; her "second" father, Augustus John, and her real father, Francis Macnamara, wild Irish poet and philosopher. She grew up in a chaos where principles were fiercely held but rules ignored.

The women were beautiful, the men tall, strong and passionate. Every moment was heightened: evening gardeners became parties, family disagreements took on the vehemence of tragedies. Francis left his young wife after seven years, and she and her four babies found refuge in the dilapidated house of Francis's friend, Augustus John. Francis often lived there too.

A child whom no one taught to read till she was 12, whose worldly knowledge was picked up at random from the unshockable John household, who only stumbled on her painting talent in her teens, who seemed overshadowed by the gorgeous Caitlin, the autonomous appetite for experience, who only began writing out of desperation in the Blitz. Nicolette spent her life among rowdy giants and ruthless geniuses.

It is a vigorous memorial to them all. It saddened her to think of the truth about them being lost, though some truths, such as the death of the gentle Anthony, were too painful to record, while others — the crude pettiness and spite that could make this now-vanished Bohemia fairly unpleasant at an everyday level — proved too harsh for her. But the rest is there, in a readable and readable autobiography.

A Very Private Life by Michael Frayn (1986, Flamingo, £2.50). A strange and engaging little fable of the future, where some of our less attractive social tendencies are straight-facedly taken to their logical and daft conclusions.

Frayn clearly had some fun writing it — it's set in the future and is solemly futuristic — and is solemly futuristic with the actual plot-location in the present, and he invents not just one but two or three convincing languages — and the result is ingeniously enjoyable.

"Nowadays people are tending to give up having children altogether and to stake that little claim upon immortality simply by living forever instead. It was the history of the parent-child and child-parent relationship which dominated society in the past, and which so intolerably violated the privacy of child and parent alike."

The Penguin Book of Limericks compiled by E. O. Parrot (1984, £4.95). Illustrated with a jocular period-flavour by Robin Jacques, this book comes with a long introductory essay ranging from the history of the limerick in descent to the rich source material of the periodical competitions.

The 800 limericks presented are grouped into (very roughly) subject categories: The Church, the arts, the old-familiar-ones-we-all-know-from-somewhere, death, etc. — and march on into limericks that have lost bits, limericks that reply to limericks that are poetry, and limericks chronicling the fertile adventures of all those girls who came from Uttoxeter and Ulva. Parrot has a great practicality every rock pool where a limerick, shy or brazen, could lurk, to make a weirdly huge compendium.

Barry Fantoni's Chinese Horoscopes (Year of the Rat/Bufalo, Sphere, £1.95). Horoscopes are not any less nonsense for being Chinese. On the other hand, one couldn't say of this book that there's nothing in it. There's Barry Fantoni in it, waffling away with all the gulle and fizz of his life as writer of Mike Dime thrillers and cartoonists.

In this context he tells us that practically everybody connected with the Rat/Bufalo, but "to try to understand the Bufalo is to set oneself a thankless and unproductive task." A Bufalo pays those who work for him "a fair but not excessive wage."

Fantoni himself is a Dragon, apparently a creature of Big Shot ways and ineluctable seductiveness. Since the stars foretell that there will always be horoscopes bestseller in any year, I'll put down my marker this time for it being this one.

GALLERIES BRIEFING

Opening Show (Blond Fine Art, 22 Princes Street, W1, until February 16). Blond Fine Art has moved premises and is being re-launched with a mixed show. I'm pleased to see that the gallery has taken on some quirky new artists (Neil Jeffries, Hilary Cartmel) to complement its excellent existing cast.

Printmakers at the Royal College of Art (Barbican, until March 3). Having only been in this column last week that the royal college organisers had brought in the United Technologies corporation — a firm that helped to develop cruise missiles — as sponsors, several of the artists have written to inform that although they have been unable to withdraw entirely from the show they have decided to donate any profits they make to CND.

Van Dyck (National Gallery, Room 61, until March 10). Several of the artists have written to inform that although they have been unable to withdraw entirely from the show they have decided to donate any profits they make to CND.

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TELEVISION

Hugh Hebert

Driven To The Limits

IT HAS always seemed odd that anyone should want to own Hong Kong, basically the world's biggest traffic jam entirely surrounded by water. For every mile of road it has 14 miles of car. They say it exports its old tyres to mainland China where they are used to shoe the farmworkers. China, the nation that gave you barefoot doctors, now gives you retread peasants.

In fact, from Driven to the Limits, this week's Automania (Central), you gather that being a motorist anywhere east of Calcutta is hell. In Japan, you have to do a mandatory 27 hours of tuition before you take a driving test, and since the schools run out of ten of you will be thrown back to do a whole lot more. If you live in Tokyo, before you can buy a car, an official will come round to measure your Nissan hut.

This series, celebrating the centenary of the car, has been deftly directed and rich in the oddball, which in a contrary way sometimes makes the beast with four wheels seem a lot more lovable than it is. But it has also reminded us of some pertinent facts — for instance, that while our MPs are trying to up the speed limit to 80, car-borne micromice cruise steadily at 55 and is the safest place in the world to drive a car.

Safer even than South Korea, where candidates for a licence have to take an hour's written exam, know the highway code backwards — which I suspect is how you read South Korean anyway — and then take the road test as a form of spectator sport.

You undergo the ordeal in a vast concrete bull ring full of nasty obstacles and incidents, and loud with the sound of crashing metal. Every so often the red light goes on for some infraction, the crowd rises to its feet with dismayed cries of "Oh!" or possibly "Ho!" and a god-like voice intones from in No 5. You've had your chips. Where did I put my Sinclair?

ANGELA FLOWERS

Waldemar Januszczak

Ben David/Faulkner

CUTE, long-mounted, nosy-looking, the tana is a small shrew which scuttles around the jungles of Borneo hunting for insects. Otherwise known as the barning it also scuttles across the top of Zadok Ben David's towering black hand which makes up the rest of the totem.

Aesthetic cheekiness is Ben David's trademark. He is one of the most nimble sculptors caught up in Britain's current sculptural renaissance, constantly changing materials from wood to clay, from perspex to Thames river mud, constantly switching his moods from vaguely religious to highly irreverent and light-hearted.

In this case he has somehow affected a combination of the two. The curious tana appears to have wandered into a serious game of pictorial symbolism about which it knows very little, like a mouse which has run up an elephant's leg only to find that the leg belongs to Ganesh, the Indian elephant god.

The giant black hand is the landscape across which the tana hunts for a small bird trapped in a perspex bubble in the middle of the hand, a fly caught in amber. Although Ben David's work frequently takes pleasure in nature's games of hide and seek, it never fails to suggest that there is a more serious

RFH/QEH

Edward Greenfield

Tippett celebration

SPONSORED by London Sinfonietta, it was Tippett day on the South Bank with Sir Michael himself the focus of attention alongside his music. Back from America where he celebrated his actual birthday on January 2, the youngest octogenarian that anyone can remember.

At the Queen Elizabeth Hall we started with Tippett the man, the first public showing of a filmed interview made by TVS, and that already pinned us back by the ears. In his gentle visionary way he quoted Newman's Praise To The Holiest, paused and spat in our faces his one-word comment: "Balls!"

As the lights went up, there was Sir Michael himself looking as though butter wouldn't melt in his mouth, but after that came the music, two whole concerts of it. It was enough to have one gasping as though butter wouldn't melt in his mouth, but after that came the music, two whole concerts of it. It was enough to have one gasping as though butter wouldn't melt in his mouth, but after that came the music, two whole concerts of it.

ST JOHN'S

Michael John White

Markus Stockhausen

TIME, like that ever rolling stream, bears not only its sons away but their audiences too. Devotees who packed the Barbican last week for the first time presumably forgot him for the Tippett celebrations at the South Bank, leaving a very empty hall for the concert Markus Stockhausen gave as a codicil of his father's residence.

It was a loss all round: because, whereas the Barbican season provided a retrospective of main works from the fifties and sixties, Sunday's concert brought us closer to the present, with performances of Tierskreis and the British premier of Oberlipentanz — an unaccompanied reworking of concertante dances for trumpet and orchestra in Stockhausen's opera Samstag.

Oberlipentanz (Upper Lip Dance) refers to the giant stage set at this point of the opera, its features demarcating where the participants are placed. Sound distribution remains important in this concert version, which calls for mobility around the auditorium as well as stamina and the ability to produce rapid changes in timbre.

hence the apparatus Markus wears round his waist, which looks like an instrument of torture but is in fact a pouch for his arsenal of mutes.

Tierskreis was another reworking, originally for musical boxes and now for trumpet (Markus) and for percussionist (Robyn Schulzowsky). With a surprising, open-handed charm it comes closer to the gentleness of Walter Zimmermann's percussion solo Glockenspiel, performed earlier, than to the more virtuosic qualities of William Krast's Encounter III, involving both players in dramatic scenes of conflict, reflecting visually what we hear musically. The exchange was beautifully engineered in an account as tight and vivid as Stockhausen's bright blue trousers.

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A RICH... AND MOVING PRODUCTION

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Where's the need to vet this jury

Oh, come on; or rather, come off it. At first sight, the news that the jury in the Clive Ponting trial, due to start at the Old Bailey next week, is to be vetted comes as no great surprise. Whenever anybody faces an official security charge, the jury is liable to be vetted. That has been the case since at least 1949, the date when Western Powers began stricter security vetting of their employees. As is the way with these things, though, jury vetting itself remained an official secret for 30 years. It was only during the course of the "ABC" trial of 1978 that the then Attorney General, Mr. Sam Silkin, first allowed the vetting guidelines to be published. They revealed that the prosecution is allowed to make checks on potential jurors in "certain exceptional types of case of public importance." Among such cases, they said, were big gangland trials and "serious offences where strong political motives were involved such as IRA and other terrorist cases and cases under the Official Secrets Act." Since then, new guidelines have been issued by the current Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers, in an attempt to allay public disquiet. Under these 1980 guidelines, vetting can still be authorised in national security cases where evidence is to be heard in camera, as well as in terrorist cases.

But the vetting of the Ponting jury raises two general issues of importance. The first is vetting itself, and the ways in which juries are now selected for criminal trials. Ever since legislation in 1974 quadrupled the pool of potential jurors by removing the old householder qualification, police and prosecution authorities have looked for ways of restricting jury rights. The search for "responsible" jurors has proceeded on several fronts. Certain sorts of case are being removed from juries altogether. As we pointed out on January 9, current attention is focused on the alleged unsuitability of juries to hear long fraud cases. Simultaneously, though, the rights of specific groups of people to sit on juries at all are being attacked. Jury-vetting is a part of

this process. But, at this point, it is worth reminding ourselves what the vetting actually consists of. It is, above all, a trawl through Special Branch records. In the 1979 "Persons Unknown" trial, in which four anarchists were charged with (and acquitted of) firearms and explosives offences, it was revealed that these files contain often irrelevant material, such as that a potential juror had been a crime victim or was believed to live in a squat. On such unsubstantiated trivia is a juror's unsuitability decided.

The vetting of the Ponting jury, though, also reopens the relationship between Official Secrets Act charges and the concept of national security. Mr. Ponting is charged under Section 2 of the act. This, as we have repeatedly pointed out, is a catch-all clause which covers the disclosure and receipt of official information, whether or not it has anything to do with national security. As the evidence to the 1972 Franks committee inquiry eloquently showed, this can involve everything from Britain's nuclear defences to the number of cups of tea consumed by civil servants in the Ministry of Agriculture. It is a provision against which, as one legal textbook has it, "hundreds of technical infringements" are committed each day. A prosecution under Section 2 therefore does not necessarily involve national security. But it is, by common consent, a discredited law which Franks and many others since have wanted to see repealed. Today, indeed, sees the latest of many such repeal moves, in a Commons 10 minute rule bill from Mr. Chris Smith, MP. In such circumstances, prosecution authorities would not be human if they were not tempted to muddy the waters of Section 2 cases with dark, but perhaps wholly illegitimate, references to national security considerations.

We do not know if such considerations apply in Mr. Ponting's case. What we do know is that at his committal at the magistrates' court, the prosecution specifically denied that a breach of security was involved. We also know that the case is widely regarded, in Whitehall, at Westminster, in Fleet Street and beyond, as a test case for Section 2 itself. There is therefore a very unpleasant smell about the prosecution's attempts to have parts of the case moved in camera and the consequential decision to start vetting the prospective jurors. It looks

suspiciously like either scare tactics or a cover-up, or both. Such an approach would be both unworthy and unjust. Oh, come on; come off it.

Lines behind the green line

The gap between Greek and Turkish Cypriots has never been so narrow and there is a need for the United Nations to persevere in its search for a solution. That was the message put upon events by Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar as the latest UN peace initiative crumbled about his ears in New York this weekend. In a sense, that is what he would say, wouldn't he? The Secretary-General is not in the business of announcing, brusquely: "Together we blew it" and moving on. He has to have a back to back at Eritrea, Kampuchea or the Lebanon. Having invested so much of his personal time and energy over the past six months in the Cyprus problem, Mr. Perez de Cuellar has a vested interest in keeping the show on the road. That said, it is worth going back to first base and asking, taking each side at face value for the moment, what still divides the two communities?

That, in turn, involves seeking the bottom line for the two communities. For the Greek Cypriots the bottom line is that they hold the monopoly on international legitimacy. To put it crudely, President Kyprianou is recognised by every international agency, including the UN, as the ruler of all Cyprus. Turkish as well as Greek. His Government is accepted as the legitimate government of the entire island. (Only Turkey recognises the claim of the Denktash administration to speak, as an independent government, for the Turkish Cypriot community.) The bottom line for Mr. Denktash, leader of the smaller and unrecognised Turkish Cypriot administration, is his ability to create facts on the ground. The fundamental fact is that, for the past ten years, the Turkish Cypriots have been building a community upon almost 40 per cent of the island, protected by an intervention force of at least 25,000 soldiers from mainland Turkey. If the island is to be re-united as a federal republic — as both sides say they wish — then the soldiers must be talked into going home.

At the weekend, Mr. Denktash invited

Mr. Kyprianou to sign an agreement in principle on the future of the island and then to enter into talks about the destination of the Turkish forces. To the Greek Cypriots that meant legitimising the Turkish Cypriot administration before seeing whether agreement about the occupation forces could be reached. It was not an acceptable deal. But neither was the Greek Cypriot option — taking the troops out before a deal is signed. Mr. Perez de Cuellar intends to bring the two sides together again in a couple of months. Such an exercise will be worthwhile, if — and only if — he has prior agreement for a bottom line swap: a timetable for the phased withdrawal of Turkish troops to be exchanged for a Greek Cypriot recognition of the Denktash administration. Anything less would be unconvincing fudge. Meanwhile we may hope that the telephone lines between New York and Ankara will be kept very busy indeed. Men, mostly of goodwill, have toiled too long and too fruitlessly over decades to put Cyprus together again for their efforts to fail at this point. The Greek Cypriots are a natural majority who must, on the ground after a settlement, benefit from seeing the island made whole again. The Turkish Cypriots, too, will find best prospects for their own future in a Cyprus not constantly divided by fear, but restored to a careful federal variant on its old, flourishing form. Mr. Perez de Cuellar may not quite have managed the trick this time. But a moment of history remains close and compelling: there for the taking.

Livening up the old stones

Lord Montagu and his colleagues on the new and controversial Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission displayed a courage verging upon the foolhardy when they elected to make the future of Stonehenge their first priority. Stonehenge is one of a handful of archaeological sites whose reputation is worldwide. More yet — it is one of a handful of sites which has come to symbolise the country in which it stands. Stonehenge is Britain, almost as the Pyramids are Egypt or the Acropolis is Athens is Greece. Yet Stonehenge is a squalid, scruffy mess. It is, without a doubt, the worst preserved, though not the worst preserved, monument in the interna-

tional first division. Rusting barbed wire keep the trippers away from the stones, lest they add to the aerosol defacement so popular a few years back. The A344 rumbles close to the stone circle. Casual punners can park cars and coaches within yards of the monument but they cannot advance upon it on foot, down the ceremonial avenue which, alone, makes sense of the place. There is no museum and no "interpretation centre" on a site of the utmost complexity, embracing smaller sites spread across many square miles, and several millennia. If you think the stand-up, outdoor cafe is a disgrace, try the toilets. They must be in the running for either a demolition or a preservation order. Yet still the crowds come to one of the most spectacular and mysterious places in Europe. Well over half a million last year. Lord Montagu's Thatcherite quango, instructed to treat our heritage more commercially and more imaginatively than the Department of the Environment had done, hopes to double that number. The temptation to go for a Disneyland theme park, complete with morris trips across the Wiltshire countryside, stopping off at a plastic "foamhenge", and finishing up at a prehistoric village, featuring beer garden and children's mastic play area, must have been great. It has been avoided.

Instead there is to be a tolerably restrained, \$5 million clearing up operation. The barbed wire will go and the A344 will be diverted — to the unimaginative anger of local councillors. The "deplorable clutter" of shacks will be replaced by a visitors' centre complete with restaurant, museum, and audio-visual displays. The centre will stand almost a mile from the monument, discreetly shielded by an existing copse — as long as the army will surrender the crucial few acres. Sign posted walks will spread the visitors thin on the ground among lesser known barrows and henges. The commission has, of course, yet to demonstrate its ability to turn these fine sentiments into facts on the ground. If Lord Montagu succeeds at Stonehenge, then he will have done much to vindicate the Government's view that it is possible to apply commercial drive and imaginative marketing to sensitive sites without aesthetic or academic loss. The Department in contrast, failed either to develop Stonehenge or to preserve it in aesthetic aspic. It was time for a change.

A process, incidentally, much assisted by the Council for National Academic Awards. We are most certainly faced with a bizarre national picture in which some able education ministers preach change and flexibility without a penny to bless us with. However, the trend is steadily towards removal of the tiresome bureaucratic constraints. New course approval begins to be a little quicker and simpler and new course patterns are appearing thick and fast. Winchester's small sculpture department alone has three major public commissions in hand at present, two for private companies and one for a health authority. There is no shortage of commissioned work for the colleges to do and a good many clients coming back for repeats. For all its financial difficulty and all its upset to college communities, this is a time of opportunity for the art schools. Len Stoppani, then Principal of West Surrey College of Art and Design, was stressing exactly that in the two heroic days of private enterprise of which he was the major animator, "Young Blood" and the international student art show "Germinations". I see no "lines to calamity" or good colleges "in corners". Rather an art school system which apprentices days are done and being freed at long last for a wider job in this country and abroad. — Yours David Sherlock, Winchester School of Art, Hampshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Suffer little children — at the hands of our major theatres

Sir, — Michael Billington keeps a sensitive finger on the pulse of the theatre and has once more diagnosed an unhealthy symptom: the present fever of adaptations of novels at the expense of plays written for the stage (January 18).

Alongside Billington's article Naseem Khan, reviewing the new musical version of *Wind in the Willows* at Sadler's Wells, hopes to see the day when someone "will take this lovely book by the throat of the neck and make it a theatrical version that gets far closer to the spirit of the original." But why? Why adapt a book? Surely it would be better to give children a play actually written for the stage.

For years the commercial theatres have afforded nothing but pantomime and adaptations. This is because for the Treasure Islands and Toads they can be sure of their box office receipts, whereas they cannot count on them for a title that is unknown and never the quality of the new play.

Obviously the proper place to foster new plays for children is at the National or the RSC, the subsidised states that have the resources to put on exciting and dramatic plays. If they would only show they cared it would bring enormous encouragement to all those children who have a deep faith by their good work in TIE and the many but less fortunately funded children's theatres. These are keeping theatre for children alive despite total neglect at the top. For the National and the RSC should surely cater for all ages and give a lead with children's theatre as with any other? But they have offered nothing new over the years. We have had the same treatment of the all-too-immortal Peter Pan at the Barbican and adaptations galore at the National — not of popular books but of remarkably undramatic

works: Sancho Panza, *Havetha*, *The Mariner*... a challenge to the vanity of producers but a bore for the young audience.

There is no lack of brilliant children writers whose stories have been made into books but they are absolutely no encouragement to write for the stage. Children nowadays have no idea of the different thrill the stage can offer: they know only film in all its forms. Schools are brought in to condense humdrum Christmas shows but dreads of miles to the National what the children see is far from preparing them for a theatre-loving future. — Yours Gwen Marsh, London NW3.

Sir, John Elsom writes (January 3) that our finances would be in a healthier state if we had secured a better deal for our production of *Amadeus* in New York. More than half a million share in our profits from the forthcoming film, look like a very substantial return to me.

Elsom also says that the NT feel "flat on its face" in the similar Anglo-Broadway deal with Jean Seberg. This is even sillier. Jean Seberg failed, unfortunately, after a severe critical pasting, and probably because of that never reached Broadway. But if it had, and succeeded, we stood to make even more than with *Amadeus*, the success of which gave us more bargaining power. Elsom has previously ridden his hobby horse about the National as a journalist. This time he writes, apparently, on behalf of the Liberal Party Arts Panel — quite another thing. Are we to assume that this continuing distortions about the National are now part of official Liberal Party policy? Michael Elliott, General Administrator, National Theatre, London SE1.

Sign of a misplaced trust

Sir, — When it is thought that a crime is contemplated it is important that it is rightly identified. Otherwise the criminal intent will escape its deserts. A TV programme recently suggested the proposal to sell off the Trustee Savings Bank implied that a theft was intended. The crime in question is Breach of Trust.

Many questions are being asked as to who owns the Bank. It is a Trust and the very conception of a Trust is that it is held and not owned. It may be held on behalf of a person or persons but in the majority of cases it is held for a purpose. That purpose is defined in its foundation deed and we betide the trustee who misappropriates the assets for some other purpose.

This ancient and profoundly religious idea was widely developed by high-minded capitalists in the Victorian period to share their sudden gains with the weak and disadvantaged. They gave large sums of money and a great deal of time and informed energy to the service of these noble efforts. It

was a Victorian virtue and its benefits are to be seen in many facets of our society not least in the Building Society.

No doubt Parliament can exercise its prerogative to turn the crimes of today into the virtues of tomorrow. Before it exercises this power in respect of the TSB it ought to think hard about what it will thereby do to the whole concept of Trust.

As one who learnt at least 65 years ago through the work of the TSB to save my pennies, knowing that they would be cared for by wise men acting on my behalf, I cannot welcome either for myself or my grandchildren the effective and successful Trust is now to be diverted.

If it seems likely I am then offered as a customer the right to convert my savings into shares and if I am then to be told that this is to my advantage then I have to ask whether the crime of bribery is being added to the Breach of Trust which seems to be in contemplation. — Yours faithfully, Name and address supplied.

The human factor left out of a design for the future

Sir, — There must be many of us teaching in British art schools who read the article by Robert Macdonald (January 15) with a considerable degree of sympathy, as it is very difficult to disagree with his comment that present development appears to be ill-planned and largely negative.

However, future solutions to the problems of schools of art and design will have to depend on more than nostalgia. Clearly the notion of a monolithic London institute would appear to be a Sixties style corporate merger with bureaucratic expansion, and this is no real solution either. It is clear that free-standing art or design schools are an endangered species, which, despite a notable record of contribution to the national culture,

are likely to be rationalised out of existence.

However, what these institutions have established are some ideas about the effective scale on which an art school can work as a human institution. I would suggest that the future direction should be to give individual institutions a stronger personality and identity, and create nationally a broader variety of choices for the prospective student. Too many prospectuses for too many courses all virtually say the same thing.

In addition to this, the remaining free-standing art schools could address the threat to their existence by exploring ways in which they could become partly independent of central and local government control, and how they could find ways of

more effectively manipulating that control.

It would appear that Fal-mouth's recent success in rebuilding NAB recommendations is a very encouraging step in this direction. It would be refreshing to see art and design institutions reflecting the needs of potential students more than the financial policies of ill-informed bureaucrats. Yours faithfully, Nicholas McKemey, Principal, Blackheath School of Art.

Sir, — There was a good deal of truth in Mr. Robert Macdonald's two articles on the travails of our schools of art and design (January 15, 16). He did, however, make us make us all sound like frightened rabbits, trembling in the headlights of some

onrushing juggernaut and that's far from true.

Many staff regretted the exclusion of part-time students and the consequent loss of local links. It resulted in the 1980s by the National Council for Diplomas in Art and Design and the Department of Education and Science, that part-timers should not share accommodation with full-timers. Many colleges have been attempting to subvert that ever since.

Equally, if the colleges have been slow to radically change their courses, it has largely been so because to alter even the title required a re-approval process by the DES which took two years or more. It simply wasn't worthwhile; better to continue the subtle evolution of the course content away

from the orthodoxies of the 1960s. A process, incidentally, much assisted by the Council for National Academic Awards.

We are most certainly faced with a bizarre national picture in which some able education ministers preach change and flexibility without a penny to bless us with. However, the trend is steadily towards removal of the tiresome bureaucratic constraints. New course approval begins to be a little quicker and simpler and new course patterns are appearing thick and fast.

Winchester's small sculpture department alone has three major public commissions in hand at present, two for private companies and one for a health authority. There is no shortage of commissioned work for the colleges to do

and a good many clients coming back for repeats.

For all its financial difficulty and all its upset to college communities, this is a time of opportunity for the art schools. Len Stoppani, then Principal of West Surrey College of Art and Design, was stressing exactly that in the two heroic days of private enterprise of which he was the major animator, "Young Blood" and the international student art show "Germinations". I see no "lines to calamity" or good colleges "in corners". Rather an art school system which apprentices days are done and being freed at long last for a wider job in this country and abroad. — Yours David Sherlock, Winchester School of Art, Hampshire.

During my time in the House of Commons we passed the 1969 Children Act which opened up fostering and adoption. That Act faced many of the criticisms that are now being applied to surrogacy. During the decade that has followed these have proved to be without foundation and much of the secrecy about adoption has gone.

If we approach surrogacy in the same spirit, bearing in mind it is here to stay, we can see many childless couples becoming happy parents and making their contribution towards producing the next generation. Yours sincerely, Joan Lester, 6 St. James Drive, London SW17.

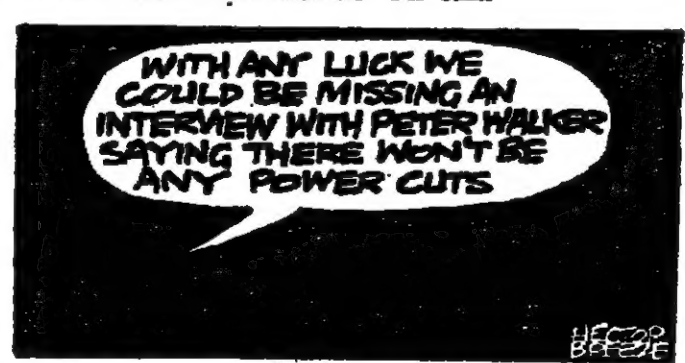
Powers that be who cut hardest of all

Sir, — The temperature in our village never rose above 5 degrees C on Wednesday, January 16. The Southern Electricity Board deliberately cut off the electricity supply 200 homes on that day in order to carry out work.

They had served statutory notices one week before that they intended to cut off the supply for six hours and after much lobbying some homes were cut off for three hours, others for longer.

Board officials from district manager to board chairman knew from my investigations that half the villagers affected were pensioners, many over 80, and many in poor health. All are dependent on electricity for heating and cooking: there is no gas in the village. The board chairman, Mr. Duane Ross, described their intention to deliberately cut off electricity in one of the oldest spells this century as part of their "statutory duty to maintain supplies at the most economical cost."

These people need to account for their actions so that their successors can be



instructed never to act with so little concern for people again.

The Regional Electricity Council (Consumer) Council had tried in vain to stop them and will support me in calling for a full inquiry. From my investigations this full inquiry will show that the work was carried out on Wednesday was not by any means a "statutory duty" but an "essential" at this time of year.

Frank Tyson, Marnhill, Dorset.

Sir, — Last week at work we experienced two power cuts, and neighbouring buildings have had two further cuts this week. It seems that whenever I mention this to anyone, they all respond with experiences of power cuts or at least voltage reductions. Yet news reports continue to repeat the CEBG claim that there are no power cuts. How can this be? — Yours sincerely, Charlie Owen, 32a Gloucester Drive, London N4.

However, the plunge in sterling raises the almost unthinkable prospect of inflationary import prices threatening even that which has sunk our Belgium of an economy (slow but basically seaworthy) an Exocet is heading for the economic task force, and the Government is zig-zagging.

Meanwhile, the unemployed, desperately swimming towards overcrowded lifeboats, can only watch with a detached horror. Would it be too cynical to suggest that their interest will best be served by a direct hit and the swift loss of HMS Monetarism with all hands? Raise the Belgrano! — Yours sincerely, R. J. Benham, 16, Whitworth Drive, Chorley, Lancs.

Sir, — In reply to Mr. Suffolk (Letters, January 17), no, it was not Sir Gwynn. It was Sir Gwynn in the Welsh, Sir Yvain in the French, Sir Percival in the English, who preferred the lion to the snake. Michael Haslam, Helden Bridge.

Sir, — I am sorry to learn that Victoria Brittain sees the Cuban government's treatment of homosexuals in the 1980s as "hardly relevant to the main issue" (Third World Review, January 18). From her review of *Improper Conduct*, the main issue seems to be the personal faults of those appearing in the film, and not the fact that a socialist state was capable of inflicting gays in special labour camps.

While sympathetic to the Cuban revolution, I do not think it is well served by a superior dismissal of human rights abuses as being of interest only to "Western liberals." Cuba, and socialists elsewhere, cannot learn from these unpleasant episodes if they are indulgently hushed up. — Yours faithfully, Dominic Hodgkin, Manchester 20.

Sink or swim? A market for happy families

Sir, — If there are still people left outside the Cabinet supporting the Government's "monetarist" experiment, the sudden change of course to reintroduce a Minimum Lending Rate" must have created doubts. The confidence of the Prime Minister and the Chancellor in their doctrine had, up to this point, been its most impressive feature.

If the M.L.R. panic has induced the government to repeat the CEBG claim that there are no power cuts, how can this be? — Yours sincerely, Charlie Owen, 32a Gloucester Drive, London N4.

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Class issue

Sir, — Are not pupils the most reliable assessors of teachers? Perhaps Sir Keith should ballot them? Margaret Miles, Pinnal, Machynlleth, Powys.

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A COUNTRY DIARY

CHESHIRE: Birch trees are always prolific producers of seed, but those in the garden have excelled themselves this winter. Their tiny winged seeds lie upon the ground like a carpet under the trees, but the behaviour of the finches, as they swing upon the twigs, indicates that not all the seeds have fallen even yet. One thinks of the fruit as seeds, but they really are not unlike they acorns — nuts covered by a thin shell. The birch is one of the hardiest of trees. It extends further north than any other deciduous tree and in Britain at least, it ascends to a greater altitude than any other, except perhaps the rowan. It is as equally at home on the damp lowly mosses of Cheshire as on the mountains of the Highlands, but it does not like chalky or lime-rich soils. The birch is one of Britain's

oldest trees, it was here long before man appeared. We do not, as good gardeners should, cut back the herbaceous border in the autumn, for the seeding plants are very beneficial to the birds in hard weather, and it has been pleasant to watch a

churn of goldfinches feeding on the seeds of *Michelia* and *Shasta* daisies. Earlier this month, the garden was invaded by a host of redwings and fieldfares which immediately attacked the apples, both on the trees and on the ground; and a week later, as I write, the birds are still here. We fear for the survival of our garden dunnet. It creeps modestly about on the snow-covered lawn, but it is too timid to join the other birds on the food-table and we dare not put food on the ground. Any bird whose attention is absorbed by the snow would be an easy prey for a cat, too many of which inhabit the neighbourhood.

L. P. SAMUELS



Without a roll

A GRAMMAR school in Kent created only 3½ years ago is to close in 1988 because it has not managed to attract enough pupils. Northfleet Grammar School with a roll of just 430 came into being when separate boys and girls technical schools were merged in 1981. With an entire classroom block now shut it could accommodate at least 300 more pupils.

The school was mainly intended to serve the large commuter villages on the North Downs between the A2 and M20. But it has become a victim of Kent's differing secondary education systems. The neighbouring Dartford area has no less than four grammar schools and retains the 11-plus, while the Thameside area, which includes Northfleet and Gravesend, transfers children from middle schools at 13.

Northfleet's head, Mr John Field, said: "Parents put their sons and daughters in for the 11-plus as an insurance policy and since there are masses of spare places at Dartford there is a good chance of getting into the

schools there. I think it would be a different picture if we took children at 11, particularly as we have the advantage of being one of the very few co-educational grammar schools in Kent."

The Labour opposition on Kent County Council believe Mr Field's school would be ideal for conversion into the area's first comprehensive. It has excellent buildings radiating from a fine Victorian manor house and extensive grounds. But it is reckoned that within 3 years there will be 2,000 vacant secondary school places in the Gravesend-Northfleet area. Northfleet grammar will have its last intake of 13-year-olds next year.

Library grants halved

REACTIONS to the news that the British Library is cutting grants to other libraries by half and can entertain no fresh applications has brought only a muted reaction from librarians. Apart from a few cries of "amen!" the news has generally been greeted with equanimity. So far.

Since the announcement were made only a few days before Christmas there could be a delayed reaction. A spokeswoman at the British Library expected people to be "appalled".

The obligation to fund important archive work on collections of national value was placed on the British Library by the British Library Act 1972, an idea believed to have emanated from Lord Eccles. Since then the British Library has been making grants averaging some £260,000 a year for this purpose. Academic librarians have had their share of this.

Last year, for example, Kings College Hospital Medical School library won £5,000 to set up a conservation programme for early medical books. Surrey University gained £4,000 to install a collection of material on the language of dance, and the

University of Belfast received £22,000 for cataloguing early issues of the 18th century Belfast Newsletter. About a fifth of the names on the grants list are of academic libraries.

Now they must find alternative funds or leave necessary work undone. For the University of Edinburgh library that means watching the steady disintegration of documents dating back to the 13th century. It is unlikely to be a unique situation.

Telling it as it should be

THE FINEST story-tellers from every part of the world will be converging on Battersea Arts Centre from January 28 to February 3 for the first story-telling festival. Activities range from a teachers' conference on "the practical use of story-telling in the multi-ethnic classroom" talks by writers including Russell Hoban, Alan Garner, and P. L. Travers, Roberto Laguardo, the ILEA story-teller, will have story-telling sessions.

Teachers wishing to attend the conference should contact the director of the festival, Ben Haggarty, c/o the Story-Telling Unit, Priory Community Centre, Acton Lane, W3 9BQ (082 5566, ext 2539) with a cheque for £5 made out to the Battersea Arts Centre, and a stamped addressed envelope as soon as possible.

Roberto Laguardo sessions are pre-booked to ILEA schools. However, there are equally a number of other school sessions including Ben Haggarty and The Common Law which promise to be good. A season ticket valid for all story-telling sessions and lectures is available for £11. Tickets for observers of school sessions and a brochure are also available for those sending an a/c.

Pickets out at Sussex

SUSSEX University seems to be taking the lead in stamping



Chris Hayne and models

Back to school, in comfort

BACK care is not taught in schools, and concern about the increasing numbers of back sufferers has led the Physical Education Association and the Back Pain Association to mount a conference called Back Pain and Physical Activity in London on February 7. The conference, which is open to teachers, will publicise a venture in South Derbyshire which is educating school pupils aged eight to 11 in back care. Since the scheme started last summer, 300 children have visited physiotherapists and occupational therapists at Derby Royal Infirmary.

The idea is a spin-off from a recent stirrings of campus activism. The trouble began with a Buildings Committee proposal to move a student union office into the refectory (a proposal that has now been dropped). About a hundred students picketed the committee meeting and held a brief and noisy occupation. Two weeks later one student was summoned for "breaches of discipline" before a special disciplinary panel.

More than 600 students are said to have signed petitions accusing the university of victimisation, and the disciplinary hearing in turn was disrupted and adjourned. The panel summoned a second student, charging her with "playing a leading part" in the disruption. The closed hearing in turn was disrupted after the end of term. The first student was expelled twice, once for "attempting with others" to disrupt the committee meeting, for

obstructing university officers, and for damaging papers belonging to HM Customs & Excise (MoD recruitment leaflets), and again for "assisting in the disruption of the disciplinary hearing". The second student was suspended for two terms. Both students are appealing.

Eighty-five other students have put their names forward as witnesses and participants in the original incident; whether the university will bring charges against all or some of them is not yet clear. The students are convinced that the political mood at Sussex has hardened in the past year, as Government funds are cut back and the pressure to increase to "privatise" higher education.

In touch with mammals

YOU CAN hardly get further away from the study conception of a museum than the Natural History Museum's "Discovering Mammals", a new exhibition exclusively for the blind and partially sighted. Visitors can follow the path of discovery that enables a zoologist to distinguish between mammals and other animals, but through a recorded commentary, braille, Moon and large print labels, and touch parts of mammal bodies which give the scientists vital clues and comparisons. Specimens to be touched include a large lion, an elephant's teeth, a mole's velvet fur, a porcupine's spines, and an antler.

"Discovering Mammals" is open March 1-31, free. Groups also welcome but booking necessary to avoid overcrowding. Phone 01-389 6523, extension 374.

Stately homes and palaces

STATELY homes are a national treasure, and consequently the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England has appointed four new education officers for the Midlands and

South-west, for East Anglia and the South-east, and for the North. The fourth, Gail Durbin, is seconded to the Department of the Environment, to give an education service for Royal Palaces and Parks.

Contact at The Education Service (PPC), room C1107, at 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3EB. A useful leaflet "Educational Resources" explains free entry for school groups, teachers' preliminary planning visits, and where "education resources" exist. The annual joint DES / EH / DoE short courses on the "Educational Use of Museums, Ancient Buildings" for teachers, lecturers, museum staff, owners, guides will be at Woburn, 200 Polytechnic, April 15-20. Information from The Education Service, English Heritage, 15 Great Marlborough Street, London W1V 1AP.

Another look at the news

"NEWS-REVIEW" is a fortnightly newsletter sheet which consists of a balanced selection of items from the national press, together with background notes, maps, and questions. Some recent subjects have been the logging of Telecom (with extracts from the Telegraph, Mail, and Guardian), the Hong Kong treaty (Telegraph and Express), the lifting of the Gibraltar blockade (Mail), and the IRA (Guardian, Telegraph, and Sunday Mirror).

It is now in its third year, and the publishers say that their 300 subscribers are teachers of 11-16-year-olds in all types of schools. The cost is £60 for 30 copies of each of the 20 issues in a year.

Details from News Review, Scott Publications, Moulton, Northampton NN3 1SH.

Adhesives and abuse

THE DANGEROUS, potentially lethal habit of solvent abuse has been around for

some years now. Jack Straw MP initiated an adjournment debate on the subject in July 1980. The government's view then and now is that there is no simple statutory answer to the problem. The police are generally powerless to take action, it is too difficult to restrict action, it is too difficult to restrict the sale of items like glue and shoe-cleaners which are in common and innocent use; water-based glues don't work as well and warnings on the packages would only be advertising "best buys" to young people looking for something to sniff. The best hope would lie in a comprehensive series of initiatives involving parents, social workers, doctors, health workers, and the police.

The trouble is that this form of drug abuse is a significant part of school modern teaching, the sale of which these adults have never directly experienced. It is the parents and professionals, as much as the youngsters themselves, who need to be educated in the subject. The Health Education Council, in conjunction with the Leeds Health Education Service and Michael Benn & Associates, has produced a training manual containing evaluative questionnaires, a tape-slide sequence, and materials which provide a comprehensive basis for ten workshop sessions. Tutors of any of the concerned groups should find it an invaluable aid.

Solvent Abuse is obtainable for £25 from PO Box 10, Wetherby, Leeds LS23 7EH.

A £25 guide

THE HEAD'S Legal Guide mentioned last week costs £25 for the first year including quarterly amendments. It is available from Croner Publications Ltd., 173 Kingston Road, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 3SS.

Contributors: Malcolm Stuart, Owen Surridge, John Harder, Judith Sheffield, Ann Hills, Betty Jernam, Jack Crose, John Fairhall.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

The Wiltshire Education Committee has submitted to the Manpower Services Commission proposals for a scheme based on a consortium of 3 schools and a college in western Wiltshire for inclusion in the third phase of the TVEI.

The criteria for these programmes include a requirement that the project should have a Co-ordinator who will be responsible for the project as a whole within the Authority.

Applications are accordingly invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post Project Co-ordinator for the Wiltshire TVEI Scheme to take up duties as soon as possible after the end of March 1985. An appointment will be made only if the Authority's proposals are approved by the MSC.

Salary will be in accordance with Burnham Headteacher Group 10 (£16,824 - £18,141 p.a.).

Conditions of Service will be those of the NJC for A.P.T. & C. Staff.

Appointment will be to a permanent post; at the end of the Scheme the appointee will be offered a suitable alternative post within the Authority.

This advertisement is placed in order to ensure that if the Authority's proposals are approved the Co-ordinator will be appointed as soon as possible in order to meet the tight timetable involved in launching the Scheme by September 1985.

Application forms (and further particulars) from Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JB (ref. ST/KES) Tel: Trowbridge 3441 Ext: 2454 returnable by 1 February.

THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

is seeking to appoint

TWO ADVISERS IN ADULT EDUCATION

ONE ADVISER will need to be well experienced in human relations education, with a working knowledge of other aspects of adult education.

THE OTHER ADVISER will need to have had considerable experience in Christian adult education, including a working knowledge of experiential educational methods.

Salary for both posts will be at Senior Executive Officer level on an incremental scale £11,782 to £14,444 inclusive of London Weighting. Applicants should be communicant members of the Church of England or of a Church in full communion therewith.

Further details of the posts (which are open to women or men, lay or ordained) together with an application form may be obtained from: Miss Anne Holt, Personnel Officer, Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London, SW1P 3NZ. Telephone: 01-222 9011. Ext. 351.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 11th February, 1985. Interviews will be held in London on 15th March, 1985.

U.S. INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY - EUROPE

requires

REGISTRAR AND ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Experience with American educational systems required. Post available now.

For appointment or initial enquiry write or call Assistant to Campus Director, U.S.I.U.E., The Avenue, Bushey, Herts.

Telephone: Watford (0923) 49067

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL DERWENTSIDE TERTIARY COLLEGE - (GROUP 4)

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL

Applications are invited from persons with suitable qualifications for the post of Principal of Derwentside Tertiary College which is to open in September, 1986, as a result of a reorganisation of post-16 education in the Derwentside area.

The successful candidate will be required to take up duty on September 1, 1986, prior to the opening of the Tertiary College. Further details and application forms, returned by February 8, 1985, from the Director of Education, County Hall, Durham DH1 1SU, on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE

Macmillan Education Ltd. wish to appoint a freelance agent as College Representative for London and the surrounding counties. The successful applicant will call on Technical, F.E. and H.E. colleges in the area, to promote the expanding Macmillan list to lecturers.

Candidates should have a background of teaching 6th form or higher level and be a car owner with an endorsement free current driving licence.

A competitive rate is paid and reasonable expenses incurred in the course of the work, including a mileage allowance, will be reimbursed.

Candidates should feel at home in the atmosphere of the college staff room where they will be promoting our prestigious list of publications.

Please apply in writing, with full c.v. to:

Sheilagh Browne
Personnel Manager
Macmillan Education Ltd.
Houndmills
Basingstoke
Hants



QUEEN ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL, BRISTOL

HEADSHIP

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant in September, 1985.

Queen Elizabeth's Hospital is an ex-Direct Grant School, now fully independent, situated in the centre of Bristol. There are 450 boys in the school (including approximately 100 in the Sixth Form), of which 350 are day boys and 100 boarders. The present Headmaster is a member of the Headmaster's Conference.

The salary will be on the Burnham 8 Scale, plus appropriate allowances and free house in the School.

Particulars from the Clerk to the Governors, Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Orchard Street, Bristol, BS1 5EQ.

KINGSTON POLYTECHNIC Faculty of Engineering

HEAD ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Applications are invited from highly qualified candidates for this Grade VI posts. Applicants should have proven professional and research records, wide industrial contacts and a good appreciation of high level education in electronic engineering. The School is responsible for a new MEng extended course in addition to well-established BEng and HND courses of high reputation. The Head appointed will be regarded foremost on an economic leader, contributing to the teaching programmes and spearheading the School's research, consultancy and development efforts. A candidate of sufficient standing can be considered for appointment as professor.

Salary range £18,975 - £19,945.

Further details and application forms to be returned by latest 1st March 1985 from Personnel Officer, Kingston Polytechnic, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2EE. Tel: 01-545 1366 Ext. 207.

Anyone wishing to discuss the post on an informal and confidential basis is welcome to contact Professor John Cocks, Dean of Engineering on 01-545 1366 ext 246.

LANGUAGE SCHOOL, SPAIN

Important school in La Coruna, Spain, requires teacher of English preferably with degree in English or English Literature, to start immediately. Applicants must speak Spanish. Salary 50,000 p.a. with a timetable of 24 classes per week.

Applicants should telephone and send CV with recent photograph and telephone number, to: Carol C/ Benito, Blanco Rajoy, 8, 10, La Coruna, Tel. 292422 or 292388.

TRAINERS WANTED ICOM LARGE CO-OPS PILOT TRAINING PROGRAMME

We are looking for a number of TRAINERS to work with one or more large London Co-operatives. They will need skills in some of the following areas:

- Democratic and Collective working.
- Management.
- Marketing Techniques.
- Finance.
- Diagnosis of Co-op/Business problems.

We are also looking for a number of people to develop a special relationship with one or more of the CO-OPS; to lay a basis for the most effective forms of training and to follow this through into organisational practice.

The project will last for a year from May, 1985. Fees in the range of £90-£150 per day. Send C.V. and covering letter by February 11. Interviews March 1. Further details from:

Elaine Moore,
Greater London Enterprise Board,
63-67 Newington Causeway,
London SE1 6BU. Tel: 01-403 0300, ext 274.

Industrial Common Ownership Movement (I.C.O.M.) is an equal opportunities employer.

Bedfordshire Education Service DIRECTOR OF BEDFORD COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Required from September 1, 1985, or as soon as possible thereafter.

The college has a wide range of full-time and part-time courses at both advanced and non-advanced levels, including CNAA validated BA and B.Ed Honours degrees, PGCE and BTEC courses, in agriculture, horticulture, building, business studies, catering, engineering, hair dressing, mathematics, computing and secretarial studies.

Applicants should have teaching and administrative experience at a senior level in addition to managerial skills of a high order. The college is in Group 9 and the salary is currently £25,169.53.

Application forms and further details are obtainable from The Chief Education Officer (Reference FEC1), County Hall, Bedford MK42 9AP. Closing date February 8, 1985.

Bedfordshire is an equal opportunities employer.



Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk to the Governing Body

Grade PO18 £10,761 - £11,783 p.a. plus £277 (L.W. and Supplements)

Applications are invited for the post of Chief Administrative Officer at Willesden College of Technology, Denzil Road, London NW10. The successful candidate will be responsible to the Principal for the organisation and effective functioning of the administrative, clerical & general staff of the College and will form part of the Senior Management Team with the Principal and the two Vice Principals.

Applicants should be suitably qualified, academically or professionally and previous experience in a further higher educational establishment is essential.

Application forms and job descriptions from the Personnel Division, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 8BW returnable by 14th February, telephone 01-903 0271 (24 hour assistance service). Reference number E-364 must be quoted.

London Borough of BRENT

Brent is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Job seekers welcome.

RADIO ACADEMY POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

The Radio Academy is undertaking a unique survey of research in radio broadcasting. It is looking for an experienced post-graduate researcher to produce the first descriptive bibliography and agenda for future research in this field. The post will be offered on a short term contract and based in London.

For full details please send an S.A.E. to: Radio Academy, The Council House, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR.

City of Newcastle upon Tyne Education Committee

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

VICE PRINCIPAL

(Group 9) £21,651

Following the appointment of the current Vice Principal to the Principalship of a Group 9 College from Easter 1985, applications are invited for this important post in the regional capital of the North East.

Further information and application forms are available from the Personnel Office, College of Arts and Technology, Maple Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7SA, to be returned, for this post only, within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement to: Further Education Department, Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8PU.

HEAD OF SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

(£17,397 - £19,170)

Applications are invited for the above post in a major Centre of Art and Design, to commence on or before 1st May 1985. A new building is being planned for occupation in September 1986.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Personnel Office, College of Arts and Technology, Maple Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7SA (Tel. 091 273 8866 ext. 208) to be returned within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement.

LONDON BOROUGH OF EALING SOUTHALL COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

VICE-PRINCIPAL

(Group 6) £20,349 inclusive

Applications are invited for the above post which becomes vacant on May 1, 1985. Applicants must be graduates with senior teaching and administrative experience in further higher education. Experience with Manpower Services Commission schemes would be an advantage, but personal commitment and an ability to communicate effectively with college staff, employers, the local community and outside agencies will be essential.

Further particulars obtainable from: Chief Education Officer (Ref FESCOT), London Borough of Ealing, Hadley House, 78-81 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W5 5SU. Telephone inquiries to 01-579 2424 ext 2593 or 2581. Closing date February 4, 1985.

ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Required for January, 1985:

- Part-Time Lecturers in Keyboard and Office Skills
- Communication
- Catering and Industrial Cooking

Applicants should have appropriate qualifications and experience. Telephone (01-993 2344) to Head of Department of Business and General Studies, Acton Technical College, Mill Hill Road, London W3 8UX.

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

Postgraduate Research Studentships

A limited number of full-time research studentships for candidates registered for higher degrees will be available; tenable from 1 October 1985 in any department up to three years.

Candidates should hold or be expected to achieve a good Honours degree. The studentships will carry remission of fees together with a maintenance grant of £2,585 p.a.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Registrar, University of Stirling, Stirling FK9 4LA. Closing date 31 March 1985.

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Life can be hard at times

The Editor
THE GUARDIAN

Dear Sir,

I AM 11 and am now going to the local comprehensive school. I am fed up with the fact that the school puts all the noisy kids who don't care less about their work in with the quiet hard working kids. I do not agree with this system because it stops the hard working kids from working. This is ruin, affects their exam results.

Also some noisy children never stop being noisy, so the teachers never tell them off. They do not because if they did, the noisy kids would just carry on. If you told the teacher about the way the noisy kids behaved and the kids were told off (which they wouldn't be) they would call you a snob or a class.

Some fourth years spat in my hair today and I couldn't do anything about it because A. the teachers would not tell them off because the 4th years would make up some excuse, and B. they would beat you up if you did tell.

The only thing I like about the school is the lessons but the teachers are spoilt by the noisy kids. — Yours faithfully, C.E. Nottingham.

Wailing mail
IF THE successful Oxbridge applicants were to receive confirmation before Christmas and the unsuccessful ones after Christmas, even potential Oxbridge students should be able to deduce that no pre-Christmas letter means no place.
G. Lawrence,
110 Wyndham Crescent,
Canton, Cardiff.

School doctors all at sea

"WHATEVER happened to the Nt Nurse" (January 15): If school health as a distinct service has indeed sunk without trace, then there are thousands of school doctors (or community health doctors) and nurses floating in the open sea praying for landfall. Newcastle and Nottingham have indeed been cited as areas of excellence — but there are other thriving progressive Community Child Health departments in Health Districts throughout the country. Educational medicine is an area of active interest and development, as part of the wider field of community paediatrics.

Katrin FitzHerbert's article totally fails to point out that one of the major recommendations of the Court Report was the appointment of Consultant Community Paediatricians.

Paediatricians appointed to an acceptable face of funding
SIR KEITH Joseph, at the North-east Education Conference, said that he found it acceptable that parental funding was used to purchase educational necessities and that it was for LEAs to assess whether schools would need additional capital allowance to compensate where parents could not afford to make contributions.

Method of selection of school governors: what are the criteria for nominees?
FURTHER to my letter last week on school government: The administration of our schools is a legitimate concern of parents, but school government will not attract the interest and confidence it needs until its operation is more widely known — how governors are appointed, whether qualifications are required, and if so what they are. In the case of the political nominees, what are the criteria? Experience and/or interest in education? Party allegiance? The interested parties, parents and staff, are in the method of selection of governors should be more widely known. The existing duties of governing bodies also present embarrassing anomalies. Governors on average may enter school three or four times a year, and must take decisions on staffing, building priorities, and other less important matters. Many of them are not suitably qualified either by experience or familiarity with the school. How would individual governors in their own businesses or professions warm to the idea of a body of lay people visiting a few times a year, exercising control over staffing and building priorities?



Philosophy at A level

FOLLOWING the appearance last year of the AEB and JMB "A" level philosophy syllabuses, the wish was expressed at conferences in London and Sheffield that an Association of Teachers of Philosophy be set up.

The association is still very much in the process of being formed, but interested teachers, advisers and others are invited to write to Drs P. Goller, M. Roche and N. Sellers, A.T.P. Social and Industrial Studies Unit, Carr Road, Deepcar, Sheffield.

Change should begin by facing squarely the existing practice of political representation, establishing criteria of selection which should be made widely known to the public, parents, and staff. Areas of decision-making should be reviewed. Appointments, building programmes, and such matters of vital concern to the school's well-being should be recognised as the proper responsibility of the school management (head, deputies, senior staff) as in commerce, industry, and the professions. For the record, and with bated breath, it must be said

The danger of VAT in 1987

IN VIEW of the possible imposition of VAT on the printed word — books, journals, newspapers, and the rest — by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, your readers may care to consider the classical "ignorance is strength" statement made by Davies (Giddy) Gilbert, MP for Bodmin (1808-1832), when opposing Whitbread's bill of 1807 to provide elementary education.

"However specious in theory the project might be of giving education to the labouring classes of the poor, it would in effect be found to be prejudicial to their morals and happiness. It would teach them to despise their lot in life, instead of making them good servants in agriculture and other laborious employments to which their rank in society had destined them. Instead of teaching them subordination, it would render them fractious and refractory, as was evident in the manufacturing counties. It would enable them to read seditious pamphlets, vicious books, and publications against Christianity. It would render them insolent to their superiors; and, in a few years, the result would be, that the legislature would find it necessary to direct the strong arm of power towards them."

Stanley Alderson, Cambridge.

Fending off 6p a copy

IT IS NOT surprising that letters from university and school teachers on the subject of photocopying and copyright should be replied to by officials of the licensing bodies, nor perhaps that they should misrepresent the position. What the Whitford Committee recommended was mutually agreed licensing with modest payments, to take into account the fact that much photocopying is of out-of-print material or does not breach copyright.

The Vice-chancellors' committee has just rejected the CLA demand for payments of 5p per copy for journals and 3p for books precisely on the grounds that these are not modest payments.

It is quite untrue that either the last or the current year have in the past been observed by few people. What the law prohibits is photocopying that causes a loss to the copyright owner or makes a profit for the copier. Individual institutions

Girls' choice of a secure career
THE REVIEW "I want to be an Engineer" implies that the extraordinarily low proportion of girls going into engineering in Britain is because of prejudice of some kind. If society wants more engineers, female or male, the profession has to be as secure and as financially attractive as medicine, the law, teaching, or the civil service. — Yours faithfully, Dr T. R. Shelly, 127 Tunbury Avenue, Walsley, Cheshire, Cheshire, Cheshire.

governors on January 8. The National Association of Governors and Managers was founded 15, not 25 years ago, and we do not think governors need stronger powers, we want them to use the powers they already have more effectively. We are surprised, too, at the suggestion that parent governors do not attend meetings regularly. Our experience is that parents and staff governors are more assiduous in every way than political appointees, many of whom, heads tell us are never seen. Felicity Taylor, 10 Brookfield Park, London NW5 1ER.

Surplus to whose needs?

CAROLINE PENN (January 15) is of course right when she says "it should be national policy only to improve the quality of school life not to whittle away at facilities." What she fails to do, however, is to connect the actions of the Labour local authority of which she complains, to the national policies of the Conservative Government, which make economies unavoidable.

Ms. Penn sees withdrawing the rights of privately educated students to the county's music facilities as "sour grapes" and the selling-off of school playing fields in Northamptonshire as an unjustifiable sacrifice. I am not prepared to shed tears of sympathy for parents who, having bought their way out of our education system, are disappointed to find that they can't have access to the "best" bits of that system; if cuts are to be made, it is reasonable that those completely uncommitted to state education should feel them, and that what resources are available for music should go to children whose parents can't or won't pay for private teaching.

I don't like the selling-off of "surplus" playing fields and the County Council deserves criticism for the way in which that decision was reached and the usual failure to make its case publicly. But rather than fight against a Labour council which has done much to improve educational provision in the county, notably in respect of nursery provision in areas of social need, we should identify the real threat to state education and fight that. At our strength a Tory administration which daily attacks the quality of our children's lives through its policies on education and local government — Yours faithfully, Maureen Bell, 4 Elm Avenue, Boston, Notts.

KING FAISAL UNIVERSITY
College of Agriculture and Food Sciences
AL-HASA, EASTERN PROVINCE, SAUDI ARABIA

Vacancies for MEN
Associate or Assistant Professor in the Agricultural Engineering Department

REQUIREMENTS:
1. PhD degree in Agricultural Engineering in the field of Electricity and Agricultural Processing.
2. 3 years' teaching and research experience at university level as an Associate Professor in the field of electric power, instrumentation, automatic controls and agricultural processing engineering.
3. Fluency in both ENGLISH and ARABIC.

Vacancies for WOMEN
1. Assistant, Associate or Professor: Specialisation in Child Development and Family and Child, Nursery Schools and Kindergarten, behavioural problems of children, care of disabled children, child care and safety, the family and contemporary problems, and to supervise a model nursery school.
2. Assistant, Associate or Professor: Specialisation in Housing, Home Planning and Interior Design or Home Management to teach courses in fundamentals of housing, introduction to home furnishing, home management, and family economics.
3. Assistant, Associate or Professor in Textiles and Clothing to teach courses in textiles for the consumer, introduction to pattern design and clothing for adults and children.

REQUIREMENTS:
1. PhD degree.
2. Fluency in both ENGLISH and ARABIC.
3. Minimum of 4 years teaching experience for Professors; 2 years for Assistant and Associate Professors.

Please obtain application form from:
KPU Recruiting Office, 29 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 9QB.
KPU Box 400, Al-Hasa 51352, Saudi Arabia.
Closing date for receipt of applications: 28th February 1985.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Burnham Lecturer Grade I
in the Engineering Science Department at the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Bordon, Hants

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill this post as soon as possible. The person appointed will be required to offer to teach at least two of the subjects listed below up to BTEC Certificate level in Mechanical Engineering to soldiers serving in REME:

Applied Mathematics
Engineering & Mechanical Science
Engineering Drawing
Engineering Materials

Additionally, there will be a requirement to develop a third subject and/or accept some responsibility for: A Mechanical laboratory, Writing Course material, Writing laboratory experiments sheets, the formulation of examinations questions, Assisting in the soldiers' Study Centre, which require some evening involvement.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE
An appropriate degree or Chartered Engineer status would be preferred, but candidates holding HNC or C & G Full Technological Certificate will be considered. A formal teacher training certificate would be an advantage. Candidates should have had industrial experience or seen service in a technical branch of HMF, and will preferably have had teaching experience appropriate to the job.

SALARY will be in accordance with the Scales for Teachers in Establishments for Further Education, England and Wales currently £5,910-£10,512 plus a pensionable allowance of 17% of salary for the slightly longer working year.

SUPERANNUATION. The appointment is superannuable under the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme and will attract established civil servant status.

THE CIVIL SERVICE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER
APPLICATION FORMS and further information may be obtained from Ministry of Defence, CM(S)(4), Room 339, Lacon House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RY. Closing date for completed application forms, quoting AW1654, is February 22, 1985.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON
School of Modern Languages
Two Lectureships
In the Department of French
Applications are invited for 2 Lectureships in the Department of French. 1 permanent, 1 for three years in the first instance, in one or more of the following fields:
French Literature before 1715; Modern French Literature; French Theatre.
Salary scale £7,500 - £470 to £14,825 per annum. The initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience.
Further particulars may be obtained from Dr D. W. Powell, Staffing Department, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, to whom applications (7 copies from UK applicants) should be sent not later than February 12, 1985.
Please quote reference 1501/A.

VOLUNTEERS
Come and join the 7th Annual Remembrance of the 7th Armoured Division at the Historic Suffolk House.
Live like a Tudor for 2-4 weeks June-July as Gentry, Craftsmen, Cook, Musician, Soldier, etc. Period Crafts, skills and costumes welcome but not essential. Women and Children of all walks of life and any age can enjoy this uniquely stimulating experience.
Write to: KENTWELL 1407 LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK CO10 9BA

Teachers/Technical Specialists.
They're asking for you in Vanuatu.
Voluntary Service Overseas is looking for teachers of English, modern languages, maths, science, vocational subjects (commerce, secretarial skills, home economics, woodwork, metalwork, agricultural science), specialist teachers of the handicapped and teacher trainers to work in schools and colleges throughout the third world.
VSO work — being carried out by some 1,000 volunteers at this moment — has a lasting effect in combating world poverty and hunger.
And each VSO worker returns richly rewarded by the two-year experience.
Applicants should be aged between 20 and 65, without dependants and willing to accept no more than the 'local' rate of pay.
If you have the right qualities and expertise and you're free to go, please believe that you're needed urgently!
If you're unable to go, but you would like to support our work, there are still two things you can do: send a donation; become a VSO member. (For more information, please complete and return the coupon.)

VSO VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS
Why not?

VSO also needs...
Buddhist Clergymen, Dental & agricultural mechanics, Physiotherapists, Midwives, Nurses, Teachers, Doctors, Community workers, Town planners, Fishery specialists, Librarians, Small business advisors, Craft specialists, Foresters, Electronics Technicians & others.
Teachers: English, Maths, Science & technical subjects; Home Economics & Commerce. Specialist teachers of the handicapped — and many more.

I'm interested in volunteering my qualifications or experience are:
Please send details about VSO membership & enrolment a donation of £5.00 (£10.00 LIFE).
Accompany me:
Name _____
Address _____
Post to: Enquiries Unit, Voluntary Service Overseas, 9 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PH (S.A.E. appreciated).
Chitney no 313757 G/22/1

THE RICHMOND FELLOWSHIP FOR MENTAL WELFARE AND REHABILITATION
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR TRAINING

Applications are invited for the above post, which is a new and senior appointment. The successful candidate will be a member of the Fellowship's Executive Committee, will formulate policy for the whole organisation, and will carry particular responsibility in all matters relating to training.
He/She will provide leadership to the teaching, training and tutorial staff of the Fellowship's College, carry overall administrative responsibility for all training programmes and develop further a range of courses appropriate to a College working in the field of Community Mental Health.
Applicants should have relevant academic or professional qualifications, proven ability as a communicator, trainer and initiator and experience in the social work field either as a teacher or as a practitioner.
Salary by negotiation.
Further particulars and an application form are available from the Co-ordinator and Administrator for Training, The Richmond Fellowship, 8 Addison Road, Kensington, London W14 8DL. Tel: 01-903 6373/4/5.
This is a re-advertisement. Previous applicants need not re-apply.
Closing Date for Applications — 18th February 1985.

BOURNEMOUTH & POOLE COLLEGE OF Art & Design
APPOINTMENT OF STAFF
Following a major restructuring of the College, and Authority support for the development of a new course provision, applications are invited for the following posts:
Department of Graphic Design and Technical Illustration
LECTURER I in ILLUSTRATION (full-time post)
Department of Photography, Film and Television
LECTURER I in PHOTOGRAPHY (full-time post)
LECTURER I in FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION (full-time post)
TECHNICIAN in FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES (full-time temporary post — initially three months)
Department of Fashion and Interiors
PART-TIME (6 hours per week) LECTURER in INTERIOR DESIGN
All the above posts are tenable as soon as the appointees can take up appointment.
Detailed job specifications and application forms are available from the Senior Administrative Officer, Bournemouth and Poole College of Art and Design, Wallisdown Road, Poole, Dorset. Closing date for applications: two weeks from the appearance of this advertisement.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS
HEAD TEACHER
DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER
OUR LADY'S R.C. (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL (GROUP 2)
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the above posts to take effect from 1st April, 1985. Further details and application forms are available from The Director of Community Education, Community Education Department, Century House, Hardshaw Street, St. Helens, Merseyside WA10 1RN. A stamped, addressed foolscap envelope required in all cases. Completed applications should be returned to The Rev. Father D. Cressy, Our Lady's Presbytery, Flound Lane, St. Helens, WA9 2RN. Closing date (Head Teacher) Thursday, 21st February, 1985. Closing date (Deputy Head Teacher) Thursday, 28th February, 1985. As part of the Council's Equal Opportunity Policy, applications are welcome from people regardless of disability, marital status, race or sex.

UNIVERSITY OF WATTS
APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY
RESEARCH ASSISTANT (C26)
(Fixed Term, one year)
to work with Dr Dyan Jones on a project concerned with typographical skills in Post Office work. Candidates should have a first degree with Psychology as its main subject and should have an interest in human experimental psychology.

ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Independent, HMC, Assisted Places, Scheme 1000 boys drawn from a wide area and a broad social catchment. 300 in Sixth Form. Teaching resources excellent. September for graduates in the following disciplines, all to include A-level work:
MATHEMATICS
Barnham Scale 2 salary with removal expenses. Involvement in Sport and the Extra-curricular welcomed, with opportunities as presenters of rugby football, and to take charge of school.
TENNIS
which earned much success nationally in 1984. Further details of all vacancies available from the Headmaster, Royal Grammar School, Schute Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4QZ, to whom applications with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent before the end of January.

UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA
Norwich
LECTURESHP IN SEDIMENTOLOGY
Applications are invited for a lectureship in Sedimentology in the School of Environmental Sciences from April 1, 1985 (or not later than October 1, 1985). Salary will be on the scale £7,500-£14,825 per annum plus 10% super. No area of specialisation has been determined in advance, but the appointee would be expected to have experience in both geological and process sedimentology, to make a substantial contribution to courses in sedimentology and earth history, and to develop effective links with the School's established interests in palaeogeography, geomorphology and other geological sciences.
Applications (three copies) which should include a full curriculum vitae, including exact date of birth, together with the names and addresses of three referees, may be obtained by telephoning Professor R. A. S. Cooper, The University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, to whom applications should be sent in duplicate giving a brief curriculum vitae and the names of three referees. Closing date February 4, 1985.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON
Department of Geology
Teaching Fellow/Senior Teaching Fellow
The Department of Geology seeks a teaching fellow/senior teaching fellow to carry out duties associated with teaching of South American geology graduate students. The teaching programme will be based in Southampton with about ten weeks of fieldwork in the U.K. Successful applicants will be provided with field areas will be provided.
Candidates should have a good knowledge of field techniques and, ideally, previous experience of working with South Americans but lack of this should not deter otherwise well-qualified candidates. The contract will be for six months commencing on or before 1st March 1985.
Salary dependent on age and qualifications within range £7,500 - £15,000 per annum. Further details may be obtained by telephoning Professor R. A. S. Cooper, The University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH, to whom applications should be sent in duplicate giving a brief curriculum vitae and the names of three referees. Closing date February 4, 1985.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (C29)
(Fixed-term, three years)
to work with Dr Dyan Jones on a project titled "Human Information Processing Under High Work Load." Candidates should have a background in human experimental psychology, preferably to PhD level. Experience of work with computers (especially with VAX/VMS) would be an advantage.
Salary: Research Associate within range £7,500 to £8,800 per annum. Research Assistant: within range £4,500 to £5,800 per annum. Requests for further details (C28 or C29) for details and application form to: Staffing Officer, UNWIST, PO Box 88, Cardiff CF1 3SA. Closing date February 18, 1985.

ACADEMIC SECRETARY
required for bus tutorial college in South Kensington to act as principal's secretary and run college's office. Rewarding and interesting work for person with good organisational ability. Salary £7,500 p.a.
Contact Ms Kirsten Jansson on 01-225 0577.

HUMBERSIDE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Required for September, 1985
HEAD
for
Foxhills Comprehensive School, Foxhills Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside.
879 Pupils on roll, Burnham Group 10, Age Range 11-16
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head Teacher which will become vacant following the retirement of the present Head of the School. The successful candidate will be expected to commence duty in September, 1985.
Applications from and further particulars are obtainable, upon receipt of a large stamped, addressed envelope, from the Director of Education (H.O. Staffing), County Hall, Beverley, North Humberside, HU17 9BA, to whom completed forms should be returned not later than Monday, 4th February, 1985.
All applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the job irrespective of disability, race, creed, sex or marital status. Disabled candidates whose applications have the written support of their D.R.O. will be guaranteed an interview.

The POLYTECHNIC WOLVERHAMPTON
ASSISTANT FACULTY ADMINISTRATOR
Salary scale 4: £6,264-£7,005
Applications are invited from well qualified persons for the above appointment working in a responsible position involving communications skills, preparing statistics reports, supervising staff. Details and application forms from the Establishment Clerk, The Polytechnic, Wolverhampton WV1 1SB. Telephone: Wolverhampton 710854.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE

The Zimbabwe Government wishes to recruit suitably qualified teachers for service in secondary schools to assist in a time of temporary teacher shortage. Those selected will be appointed on three year contracts which provide, inter alia, for air fares and baggage allowances to Zimbabwe and back to Britain or Ireland on completion of the contract.

Enquiries are invited from interested persons, who must have a degree in Arts/Science, preferably in conjunction with a professional teaching qualification, or a secondary teachers' certificate.

Interested persons are invited to address enquiries, accompanied by a brief c.v. (which in the case of graduates must detail the subjects taken year by year in the degree course), to:

The Senior Recruitment and Education Attache,
Zimbabwe High Commission,
429 Strand, London WC2R 0SA.

Senior Lecturer- Advanced Computer Technique Defence ADP Training Centre

The Centre, at Blandford Camp, Dorset is responsible for the professional ADP training of officers and NCOs of the Armed Forces and MOD civilians.

The range of courses covers fundamental professional training, systems analysis and design, and programming. Other courses cover real-time systems and project management. There is an Advanced Course (30 weeks) in preparation for BCS examinations. All courses are residential.

The person appointed will be expected to lecture to all courses (training will be given, if necessary, in particular aspects) and to contribute to the development of the subjects taught.

Candidates must have a degree in computer science or related subject, or a relevant qualification, which may be an

obtained in the Armed Services, and have had 5 years' experience in the application or teaching of ADP and be experienced lecturers or be able to instruct. Experience in Project Management and the implementation of computer systems advantageous. The ability to speak in public essential.

Starting salary within the range £13,075 - £15,360 according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 12 February 1985) write to: Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

Please quote ref G/6436.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Ministry of Defence

Senior Youth and Community Worker

ORCHARD YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, SLOUGH

£3,345 to £10,467 inclusive

Required to be responsible for the organisation and development of work with young people and adults among the black community in Slough. Applicants must be qualified Youth and Community Workers or teachers and should have a clear understanding and experience of West Indian culture and aspirations, together with proven organising ability and skills in the practice of casework and counselling young people, especially in the areas of welfare and legal rights.

Comprehensive in-service training and personal supervision. Removal expenses in approved cases.

For informal discussion telephone John Ainsley or Andrew Amann on Slough 76136.

Application forms and job specification from Director of Education (YCS), Slough Hall, Slough Park, Reading RG2 9XE (SAE please).

Senior Youth and Community Worker

COX GREEN YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, MAIDENHEAD

£3,361 to £3,908

We are looking for a qualified Youth and Community Worker for a Joint Project between the County Youth and Community Service, the Community Association and the Church of England. The person appointed will have had experience of working with voluntary community organisations and proven managerial and communication skills.

In accordance with a new management structure adopted in recent months the worker will be one of a team of two co-workers, the other being the Parish Priest who is also based at the centre. The Youth and Community Worker will have a prime responsibility for the development of work with young people both within the centre and in the surrounding area and will also be involved in work to support the considerable voluntary effort in community activities.

Comprehensive in-service training and personal supervision. Removal expenses in approved cases.

For informal discussion telephone Rosemary Arber, District Youth and Community Officer, telephone Windsor 61022.

Application form and detailed job description from Director of Education (YCS), Slough Hall, Slough Park, Reading RG2 9XE (SAE please).

Youth and Community Worker

FOR THE AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY IN SLOUGH

£3,361 to £3,945 inclusive

Required to establish and maintain contact with young members of the Afro-Caribbean community with a view to assisting the Service to meet their needs. Applicants must be qualified Youth and Community Workers or Teachers with knowledge and experience of work with the Afro-Caribbean community and a definite commitment to improving the situation of underprivileged young black people. He/she should have the ability to work within a team of colleagues and to relate effectively to a range of different agencies to provide advice and information as appropriate. Comprehensive in-service training and personal supervision. Removal expenses in approved cases.

For informal discussion telephone John Ainsley, District Youth and Community Officer on Slough 76136.

Application form and job specification from Director of Education (YCS), Education Department, Slough Hall, Slough Park, Reading RG2 9XE (SAE please).

Closing date: 4th February, for all positions.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Royal County of Berkshire

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Applications are invited for appointments as Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor and Professor in candidates with suitable academic and professional qualifications and experience.

Appointees will be required to teach Architectural Design. Preference will be given to candidates who are also able to teach in one or more of the following areas:

Building Construction & Technology
Building Materials & Specifications
Building Structures
Building Services & Environmental Control
Urban Design & Planning
Landscape Architecture
History of Architecture (Modern)
History of Architecture (Western)
History of Architecture (Eastern), in particular Chinese, Indian, and South East Asian
Architectural & Design Theory
Computer Aided Design
Building Economics & Management
Professional Practice & Building Regulations (Singapore)
Gross annual emoluments range as follows:
Lecturer \$530,860 - \$53,570
Senior Lecturer \$587,500 - \$101,830
Associate Professor \$589,300 - \$123,000
Professor \$611,360 - \$145,740
(SGD\$1 = S\$2.52 approximately)

The commencing salary will depend on the candidate's qualifications, experience and the level of appointment offered. Under the University's Academic Staff Provident Fund Scheme, the staff member and the University are each required to contribute at the present rate of 25% of his salary, the contribution of the staff member and the University being subject to a maximum of \$51,250 per month and \$81,750 per month respectively. The sum standing to the staff member's credit in the Fund is tax-free and may be withdrawn when the staff member leaves Singapore/Malaysia permanently.

Depending on the type of contract offered, other benefits may include: a settling-in allowance of \$51,000 (single) or \$82,000 (married), subsidised housing at nominal rentals ranging from \$5120 to \$2516 p.m., education allowance for up to three children, subject to a maximum of \$510,000 per annum, per child, passage assistance and baggage allowance for the transportation of personal effects to Singapore. Staff members may undertake consultation work, subject to the approval of the University, and retain consultation fees up to a maximum of 60% of their gross annual emoluments in any one year.

Application forms and further information on terms and conditions of service may be obtained from:

The Director, Personnel Department, National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge, Singapore 0511, NUS Overseas Office, c/o Singapore High Commission in London, 5 Chesham Street, London SW1, U.K. Tel: 01-235 4562

BLACKBURN COLLEGE

An Institution of Tertiary and Higher Education

Fellden Street, Blackburn BB2 1LH

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN

COMPUTER AIDED ENGINEERING

Salary as soon as possible.

Principal Lecturer £13,095 - £16,457

Candidates should preferably be graduates in Mechanical Engineering with substantial relevant industrial and teaching experience.

The successful person will play an important role in further developing CAD/CAM work in the College including the implementation of flexible manufacturing systems. He/she will be concerned with BTEC courses up to Higher National Diploma level and will be expected to maintain and further develop links with industry, Lancashire Polytechnic and other Higher Education establishments.

For application form and further details send a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to the Vice-Principal (Resources) at the College.

Closing date: 8th February 1985.

Lancashire County Council is an equal opportunities employer.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC VICE-PRINCIPAL (and Director of Studies)

The College will shortly appoint a Vice-Principal and Director of Studies (combined post) to take up office in September, 1985. Applicants, who should be Graduates in Music, must be capable of supervising the overall activities of the Tuition Department. Salary £18,200 (including London Weighting Allowance).

Full details and application form from The Administrator, Trinity College of Music, Mandeville Place, London W1M 6AQ (01-935 5773). Closing date February 18, 1985.

Cheimer Institute of Higher Education

Applications are invited for the posts of:

ACADEMIC SECRETARY

£16,098-£17,877 per annum

To co-ordinate and develop the procedures for maintaining high academic standards on the Institute's wide range of vocational CNA, ETSC and final professional advanced courses. To act as secretary to various academic committees.

Closing date: February 1, 1985.

READER IN LAW

£13,055-£16,467 per annum.

In addition to pursuing his/her own research interests and publications, the Reader will be expected to stimulate and to help develop research within the School and also to make a contribution to the teaching programme. Applicants should have proven research experience and a publication record. This post offers an exciting opportunity within an established Law School.

Closing date: February 8, 1985.

Application forms and further details from the Personnel Officer, Cheimer Institute of Higher Education, 100 Road South, Chesham, Bucks HP11 1LL. Telephone 02948 354441, ext. 247.

THURROCK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Woodview Grays

DEANS OF STUDY

(Head of Department Grade IV)

Required for May 1, 1985, or as soon as possible thereafter.

(1) Dean of Community Studies

(2) Dean of Pre-Vocational Studies

The college team of five Deans is collectively responsible to the Principal for the curriculum design, recruitment and oversight of every course in the college (teams of teachers of related subjects are led by Heads of Schools). Each Dean takes responsibility for a list of courses which varies with the needs and demands of the population served.

The two posts incorporate responsibilities for all courses normally found in large General Education Departments including G.C.E., Basic Education, Care Skills, C.P.V.E., etc. with the addition of all V.T.S. courses.

The Government invites applications from graduates with experience teaching and supervising in G.E. and/or in appropriate professional fields and will seek to appoint a man or woman, who additionally shows the flexibility of approach required in college organisation in a period of rapid change.

SALARY: £15,057-£16,467 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Principal to whom completed forms should be returned within fourteen days of the appearance of this advertisement.

ESSEX County Council

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

General Certificate of Education Examination

The Board invites applications for the following appointments:

Chief Examiners

Advanced Level - for June 1987

Computing Science

History

Ordinary Level

Integrated Science - for June 1986

Persian - for June 1985

Alternative Ordinary Level

European Studies - for June 1985

Assistant Moderator -

with immediate effect

Advanced Level

Pure Mathematics

Applicants should be graduates or hold appropriate qualifications and should be under 65 with five years recent teaching experience. Examining experience is essential.

Chief examiners' duties include setting question papers advising on the award of grades and may include the supervision of a team of examiners.

For application forms and further details write to The Secretary, University of London School Examinations Board, Stewart House (Room 215), 32 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DN. Applicants should enclose a self-addressed foolscap envelope. Completed application forms should be returned by 28 February 1985.

MANCHESTER City Council

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

NORTH AREA OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION

DISTRICT CO-ORDINATOR

Salary JNC6 pts 2-5 (Manchester Scale) £12,513 - £13,983 plus additional allowance for higher qualifications.

A District Co-ordinator is required as soon as possible for the Blackley District of the North Area of Community Education. The post will be based at Plant Hill High School which has been designated by the Education Committee as a community school. It is a key post for both Area and School. Applicants should have good qualifications relevant to community education and experience in as many as possible of the fields of adult education, the youth service, school based community education, community development and general education work with the community.

Closing date 4 February 1985.

Application forms and further particulars from the Area Principal, North Area of Community Education, Room A16, Abraham Moss Centre, Grosvenor Road, Manchester M8 6UF. Telephone 061-795 5995.

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, sexuality, or responsibilities for dependants.

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It is a condition of acceptance of advertisement orders that the proprietors of The Guardian do not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement on a specified date or at all, although every effort will be made to meet the wishes of advertisers, they do not accept liability for any loss or damage caused by an error or omission in the printing or non-appearance of any advertisement. They also reserve the right to classify or refuse any advertisement, or to delete any objectionable wording or illustration.

Although every advertisement is carefully checked, occasionally mistakes do occur. We therefore ask advertisers to make us by checking their advertisements carefully and advise us immediately should an error occur. We accept no responsibility for any loss or damage caused by an error or omission in the printing or non-appearance of any advertisement. We also reserve the right to classify or refuse any advertisement, or to delete any objectionable wording or illustration.

WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MANPOWER SERVICES

COMMISSION

TECHNICAL AND

VOCATIONAL

EDUCATION INITIATIVE

INSTITUTION

CO-ORDINATORS

(Scale 4 or Lecturer II)

The Wiltshire Education Committee has submitted to the MSC proposals for a scheme based on a consortium of 8 schools and a college in western Wiltshire for inclusion in the third phase of the TVEI.

Applications are now invited for 4 posts of Co-ordinator based at the following institutions:

Hardwick Comprehensive, Chippenham (11-18)

Sheldon Comprehensive, Chippenham (11-18)

George Ward Comprehensive, Melksham (11-18)

Chippenham Technical College

to take up duties as soon as possible after the end of March 1985.

Applicants should specify whether they wish to be considered for one named institution or for all posts.

Appointments will only be made if the Authority's proposals are approved by MSC.

Salary will be in accordance with Burnham Primary and Secondary Teachers Scale 4 or Burnham Further Education Lecturer II. Conditions of Service will be those for the Authority's Secondary or Further Education Teachers as appropriate.

Appointments will be to a permanent post; at the end of the Scheme the appointee will be offered suitable alternative posts within the Authority.

This advertisement is placed in order to ensure that if the Authority's proposals are approved the staff will be appointed as soon as possible in order to meet the timetable involved in launching the Scheme by September 1985.

Applicants should have good teaching experience, preferably with some background in curriculum innovation and planning. Application forms (together with further particulars) from Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JB (ref: ST/KES) Tel. Trowbridge 3641, Ext. 2484, returnable by February 1.

HUMBERSIDE COLLEGE

**ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR**

Group 10,

£23,316 per annum

Responsibilities include

academic planning and

management research and

consultancy services, liaison

with industry and commerce.

Further particulars may be obtained from:

Personnel Office,

Humberside College of Higher Education,

Cottingham Road, Hull HU8 7RT.

Telephone: Hull (0482) 448506.

Closing date 30th January, 1985.

MANCHESTER

City Council

EDUCATION

Principal Administrative Assistant -

Continuing Education

PO2 - £10,761 to £11,703 (pay award pending)

Ref. E51

This is a new post dealing with external funding and some other aspects of the Continuing Education service.

The successful applicant will be required to oversee and monitor the financial implications of all external funding in continuing education, be responsible for the bid to the EEC for grant for vocational training, overseas statistical returns, and the development of computerisation of work in the Continuing Education Branch.

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent qualification and good administrative experience.

Closing date February 11, 1985.

Principal Administrative Assistant

Scale PO2 £10,761 to £11,707 (pay award pending)

Ref. E55

Budget Section

The posts will provide support principally in areas of the Education Committee's revenue budget provision which attract funding from external sources such as the Home Office, EEC, MSC, and Urban Programmes. Successful candidates will also have the opportunity to contribute to other aspects of the day-to-day work of a busy budget section, including some special projects, the preparation of reports and the provision of management information.

Closing date February 8, 1985.

Application form and details from the Chief Education Officer, Education Personnel Office, Crown Square, Manchester M60 3BB, quoting reference number. Telephone 061-234 7033/7035.

The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised union.

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their racial, ethnic, or national origin, disability, age, sexuality, or responsibility for dependants.

University of Strathclyde

DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

AND MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP

Applications are invited for a Temporary Lectureship, (tenable until 30 September 1987, to teach in the areas of manufacturing technology, production management and numerical control of manufacturing equipment. Candidates should have an appropriate honours degree. Experience in manufacturing methods of engineering products and assemblies would be an advantage.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY APPOINTMENTS

SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS DORSET DT9 3QN

Warden / Housemistress

for Sixth Form house of 70/75 girls. The post includes both pastoral and tutorial responsibilities and although previous school experience is not necessary, an interest in young people is essential. Pleasant self-contained accommodation is available. Applicants should preferably be aged between 35 and 50. Apply in writing giving details of age, qualifications and experience, with the names and addresses of two referees, to the Headmistress. (N.B. We have exemption under Section 72E of the Equal Opportunities Act to advertise for a Housemistress.)

SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS DORSET

DRAMA post

Required in September 1985 qualified teacher for full-time. Teaching will be throughout the school including Sixth Form work. Apply in writing giving details of age, qualifications and experience, with the names and addresses of two referees, to the Headmistress, Sherborne School for Girls, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3QN.

BEDALES SCHOOL

Petersfield, Hampshire GU22 2DG
Independent Co-educational Boarding 13-18

GEOGRAPHY GRADUATE

wanted from September 1985 to teach at all levels through to Oxbridge. The successful candidate will be expected to participate fully in the extra-curricular life of the School. Help with games an asset. The Headmaster welcomes applications (letters — no forms — including curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees). Further details available upon request.

SENIOR GENERAL SUBJECTS TEACHER

Well-qualified, Senior, general subjects Teacher required for a preferably non-Resident Post as Head of Education in small Boarding School for children with special needs. For further information please write with full CV to: Mrs P G Grey, Barwick House School, Barwick House, Barwick Park, Yeovil, Somerset. Telephone Yeovil 74732.

THE HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, OLDHAM

HEADSHIP

The Governors invite applications from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the post of Head of the School. The post will become vacant from 1st September, 1985, on the resignation of the present Headmistress Miss M. A. Winfield B.A., who is leaving to take up a post in the Education Department of the Local Authority. The School is an independent Day School for 120 girls and is in membership of the G.S.B.A. and G.S.A. There are currently 50 girls in the School. Full details may be found in the Girls' School Year Book. For salary purposes the School is Group 5 plus Governors' Discretionary Allowance. Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Hulme Grammar School, Chamber Road, Oldham. Tel 0161-254 5443. Closing date for applications 31st January, 1985.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

CLWYD COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY LIAISON TEACHERS

(Burnham Scale 2 + 5)

Experienced Teachers are required to work in Community Mental Health Teams set up in Clwyd under the A11 Wales Strategy. Due to the nature of the duties involved, particularly in the development of a flexible approach to working in multi-disciplinary contexts is required.

Teaching experience with the mentally handicapped, together with a qualification in Special Education would be desirable advantages. In previous appointments will be automatically reconsidered and need not re-apply. Application forms and job descriptions are obtained from the undersigned and should be returned by February 4, 1985.

JOHN HOWARD DAVIES
Director of Education
Education Department, Shire Hall, Mold. Tel Mold 2121 Ext. 2576.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS

THE HABERDASHERS' ASKE'S SCHOOL

ELSTREE, BOREHAMWOOD, HERTFORDSHIRE WD6 1AF
Telephone: 01-297 4253

(HMC — Independent 1200 boys — 200 in Sixth)

Required for September, 1985, a

HEAD of the DEPARTMENT of DESIGN

to be responsible for all aspects of Art, Craft, Technology and Technical Studies.

Further particulars of this major appointment available from the Headmaster.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

LANCASHIRE

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BLACKBURN BB2 6DF

HMC, INDEPENDENT. ASSISTED PLACES
1,800 pupils include 400 in co-educational Sixth-form

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 1985

YOUNG GRADUATE ENGLISH SPECIALIST

able to teach across the 11-18 range. Help with academic or boys' games an asset. Salary Scale 1 plus for a good PGCE candidate or Scale 2 plus for experienced applicant.

Apply in own hand with fully-detailed CV with names of two referees to the Headmaster within 14 days of this advertisement.

LANCASHIRE

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BLACKBURN BB2 6DF

HMC, INDEPENDENT. ASSISTED PLACES
1,800 pupils include 400 in co-educational Sixth-form

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 1985

YOUNG GRADUATE HEAD OF BIOLOGY

able to head up a lively department, with Oxbridge entry-level. Help with academic or boys' games desirable.

(Further particulars from Head Master upon receipt of SAE). Apply, in own hand, with full-detailed CV with names of two referees to the Headmaster within 14 days of this advertisement.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

HOWELL'S SCHOOL,
DENBIGH, CLWYD LL16 2BN.

An Independent Boarding School for Girls with 150 pupils aged from 11 to 18.

HOUSEMISTRESS

Required for September 1985 as

Headmistress. The post is responsible for 40 girls aged 11 to 18, for either a full-time or part-time basis. The successful candidate will be responsible for the running of the Sixth Form.

Salary is based on Burnham Scale and applicants should indicate which scale they wish to apply for. Experience in a similar post is essential. Applicants should be aged between 35 and 50. Apply in writing giving details of age, qualifications and experience, with the names and addresses of two referees, to the Headmistress. (N.B. We have exemption under Section 72E of the Equal Opportunities Act to advertise for a Housemistress.)

Letters of application, giving full details of qualifications and experience, including names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the Headmistress at the above address. Further details are available.

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School

Wakefield WF1 3QY

HMC, INDEPENDENT

800 BOYS — 100 in Sixth Form

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC — BURNHAM SCALE 4

We require either in April or September 1985 a person suitably qualified and experienced for the above post, which becomes vacant owing to the retirement of the present holder.

Details of the school are in the Public Schools Yearbook, and further details of the post are obtainable from the Headmaster to whom application also should be made.

ST EDWARD'S COLLEGE, Sandfield Park, Liverpool L12 1LF

Tel: 051-228 2278

(800 boys 11-18. Girls in Sixth Form)

R.C. H.M.C.

Required for September 1985, a qualified

TEACHER OF FRENCH

to teach throughout the school, with History as a preferred subsidiary. A willingness to help with sport would be an advantage. Scale 1 post.

Apply in writing to Headmaster, enclosing CV giving names of two referees.

St Edward's College, Sandfield Park, Liverpool L12 1LF

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Apply in writing to Headmaster, enclosing CV giving names of two referees.

The Abbey School, Reading

INDEPENDENT

Required in September, 1985, a

GRADUATE to assist in the teaching of SCRIPTURE throughout the school to University Entrance Standard. Please apply to the Headmistress with full curriculum vitae

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

Required in the Upper School (11-18) to teach GEOGRAPHY and to assist in the running of the school. The successful candidate will be responsible for the running of the school. The school is an independent Day School for 120 girls and is in membership of the G.S.B.A. and G.S.A. There are currently 50 girls in the School. Full details may be found in the Girls' School Year Book. For salary purposes the School is Group 5 plus Governors' Discretionary Allowance. Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Hulme Grammar School, Chamber Road, Oldham. Tel 0161-254 5443. Closing date for applications 31st January, 1985.

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St Edward's College, Sandfield Park, Liverpool L12 1LF

Tel: 051-228 2278

(800 boys 11-18. Girls in Sixth Form)

R.C. H.M.C.

MANCHESTER City Council

EDUCATION

Headteacher Group 1

MAYFAIR NURSERY SCHOOL, Ashgate Avenue, Crossacres, Manchester M22 7ZE

Required from September, 1985:

Applications are invited from enthusiastic and well experienced teachers for the post of HEADTEACHER at this purpose-built, 40-place Nursery School.

The vacancy is due to the retirement of the present holder.

Application forms and details from the Chief Education Officer, Education Offices, Crown Square, Manchester M50 3BS. Closing date February 8, 1985.

HEAD OF CREATIVE ARTS AND VOCATIONAL STUDIES FACULTY

Scale 4

SPURLEY KEY HIGH SCHOOL, Mount Road, Gorton, Manchester M18 7GR

Required for September, 1985:

The Faculty includes Art, Woodwork, Metalwork, Pottery, Home Economics, Needlework, Office Practice, and Typewriting. Responsibilities also include some liaison and supervision duties with our FE link courses.

It is preferred that the successful applicant will have a CDT background and will be ready and able to refocus the work of the Faculty in a problem-solving design-orientated direction.

Through the present holder of the post does not retire until the end of the summer term, it is hoped that the successful applicant will be able to take up the appointment after Easter in order to prepare for the 1985-86 year.

Teacher

Scale 1 PSSA

WOODSIDE SCHOOL, Crosscres Road, Manchester M22 3DR

Required as soon as possible:

Enthusiastic teacher to work with children aged 10-13 years in this resource school for children with moderate learning difficulties.

A Scale 2 post may be available to a suitable applicant. Closing date February 8, 1985.

Teacher

Scale 1

MELAND SCHOOL, Holmeford Road, Gorton, Manchester M10 7NG

Required for Easter, 1985:

An enthusiastic teacher with high professional standards and a commitment to curriculum development is required for this all-age school for pupils with severe learning difficulties. Closing date February 8, 1985.

Teacher of General Subjects

Scale 1

NORTH MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, Brookside Road, Mosely, Manchester M10 9GJ

Required as soon as possible until the end of the summer term:

To teach either full time or part time to cover the equivalent of 1 1/2 timetables. Applicants should indicate their preferred subjects.

Application by letter to the Headteacher at the school with the names and addresses of two referees.

Teacher of Geography

Scale 1

ST THOMAS MORE RC HIGH SCHOOL, Palmerston Street, Ancoats, Manchester M12 6PT

Required from January 25, 1985:

Teachers are required from Easter, 1985, for Peacock School, an establishment for 80 children aged 5-15 years, which is developing as a resource-based service for children with social and emotional difficulties in the central district of the city.

The successful applicants must demonstrate that they can develop rapport with young people, will not be easily upset, and will be sufficiently flexible to respond appropriately both in terms of management of pupils and, with regard to the curriculum.

Ability to offer one of the following subjects would be desirable: SCIENCE, CDT, HOME ECONOMICS, OUTDOOR EDUCATION. A member of staff will be appointed to take responsibility for the Lower School.

Staff will be encouraged to develop interests in Music and the Performing Arts.

Closing date February 1, 1985.

Application forms and details from the Headteacher at the school to whom they should be returned as soon as possible.

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their racial, ethnic, or national origin, disability, age, sexuality, or responsibilities for dependants.

LEIGHTON PARK SCHOOL

(HMC, Quaker, boys and Sixth form girls)

For Leighton Park's expansion in September 1985 staff are to be appointed to teach

ENGLISH, ART AND DESIGN, MUSIC

with minority subjects. Residential responsibilities for Sixth form girls will be linked to one appointment.

Further information from the Headmaster, Leighton Park School, Reading RG2 7DH (0734-572065).

BEDALES SCHOOL

Petersfield, Hampshire GU22 2DG.

Independent Co-educational Boarding 13-18

COMPUTING

GRADUATE required from September 1985 to develop computing throughout the School as a specialist activity and as a service to all academic departments within the School. Burnham plus, initial salary according to experience.

Applications in writing (letters — no forms — including curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees) to the Headmaster, who will send further details upon request.

BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL

Independent H.M.C.

1150 boys aged 7-18 years

Required for September 1985, a

Graduate Teacher of ECONOMICS

Applications are invited from experienced teachers who wish to be considered for the Headship of the Department, and also from those seeking either a first or second appointment in a large and flourishing department. Teaching will include Economics at Advanced level, and if possible, Business Studies at Ordinary level. The successful applicant will also seek to take an active part in extra-curricular activities, particularly in Rugby, Cricket or Table Tennis. Salary on the Burnham Scale according to qualifications and experience.

Further details may be obtained from the Headmaster, Bedford Modern School, Bedford MK44 7RT, to whom applications (by letter) should be made as soon as possible, sending names of two referees.

CLAYESMORE SCHOOL DORSET

Keen, young P.E. Graduate required for September, 1985. Ability to help with boys' games: Rugby, Hockey and Cricket, and to coach at least two of these essential. A new Sports Centre has recently been opened with its own manager, and knowledge in this area welcomed. An academic subject, at least to "O" Level should be offered. Accommodation available.

Further details may be obtained from the Headmaster, Clayesmore School, Iwerne Minster, Blandford, Dorset, to whom application should be made, with details of qualifications and experience, and the names of two referees.

SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS DORSET

Required in September, 1985

DIRECTOR OF ART

This post involves the running of a large Art Department, and the successful applicant will have the opportunity and responsibility of being involved at an early date in the planning of an entirely new art building.

Apply in writing, giving details of age, qualifications and experience, with the names and addresses of two referees, to the Headmistress.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Maldstone Division

CORNWALLIS SCHOOL, LINTON, MAIDSTONE

Appointment of

HEADTEACHER

Group 12 (subject to review), Roll 1,360

Applications are invited for the post of Headteacher for this 11-16 High school from the autumn term 1985. Under the authority's Thameside scheme the school admits pupils of all abilities at age 11 with some pupils transferring to upper schools at age 13.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained (enclose SAE please) from Divisional Officer, Astley House, Hastings Road, Maidstone ME15 7SQ, to be returned by 8th February 1985.

Re-advertisement. Previous applicants will be automatically reconsidered.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE

ALEXANDRA PARK, MANCHESTER M16 8HX

(Independent R.C. Grammar School: 770 on roll Sept. 1985 including 50 girls in

Come back Harold Lever, Chancellor Lawson has need of your Treasury wheezes



NOTEBOOK

Hamish McRae

DENIS Healey used to call them 'rippling wheezes' and would dispatch Harold Lever to cook them up. Today we are going to see why Nigel

Lawson will have to find some too.

For today we get the spending White Paper, what in the normal household or corporate world would be called a budget. What we normally think of as The Budget is in reality a revenue forecast.

Most of us (and most decent companies) work out how much we are going to spend at the same time as we work out how much we are going to earn. Not so HM.

In our national account we do things differently, working out how much we are going to spend before we worry about how we are going to pay for it.

So in a very real sense, the spending White Paper is the other half of the Budget, and tomorrow we will start to get some inkling of just how much of a pickle the Chancellor is in.

You do not have to be

very sensitive to appreciate that during the last week or so the Chancellor has been taking every opportunity to downgrade expectations about the Budget 'give-away' (actually a 'take-away') because spending has been overrunning.

There have been stories in the papers, including this one, about the rise in the Treasury's central estimate of the borrowing requirement for this year. One aim is clearly to try to influence the Tory backbenchers, explaining to them that the notion of boosting demand by infrastructure investment does create severe budgetary problems.

Another aim is to break the news gently to the markets that things are not quite as rosy as they were even a few weeks ago, and perhaps to some extent to give a further justification

for the sharp rise in interest rates. This creates a much less favourable background for the Budget than was apparent a few weeks ago, and to some extent this unfavourable background will be better charted by the White Paper.

This is where the rippling wheezes come in. The room for manoeuvre has been shrunk radically. The base for the PSBR has shifted upwards a couple of billion to, say, £10.4 billion. There is no certainty that the minimum strike will be over in April when the new financial year starts, and even if it were costs will continue into next year. Coal strikes will have to be ruled out for a start.

Now the Chancellor can and surely will make adjustments to the personal tax system, using money from the extension of VAT and

from closing some fiscal loopholes (for example, pension funds) to reduce income tax. This transfer can be engineered in such a way as it will pay for itself.

But simply to get back to an acceptable PSBR of say £7 billion will need some creative accounting. We got some of that last year with VAT payments. But this was just one example of a long tradition of wheezes, which go back to Healey days.

As Joel Barnett charts in this excellent book inside the Treasury, there were big wheezes, like getting the clearing banks to take over more export credits, and the ones nicknamed 'Leverities' by the mandarins. (The chapter, by the way, is called Fiddling the Figures).

One obvious candidate will

be a yet faster rate of private sector growth. This is a practical problem, most of which relate to the saleability of the remaining assets. But that is perhaps the best area to look.

There is the stake in BP which cannot be sold until September and where the Government has always been assumed to want to retain 25 per cent. Does the creation of the golden share for British Aerospace point to a mechanism where the Government could keep a blocking position in BP, and still be able to sell off its entire shareholding?

Could other public utilities not yet on the timetable — be added? Probably not in time for the next financial year, but if Telecom is perceived as a management success under the private sector

wing, that clears the way for many other utilities.

But these would all be well-tried wheezes, merely extensions of an established policy, and one which could be presented as being done for reasons of managerial logic and investor democracy. And even the most dramatic sell-off of that sort, the National Coal Board, presumably broken up into bite-sized chunks, is not going to meet the target for sell-offs. The present target is £2.5 billion, and sales already announced (like more tranches of BT and British Aerospace) still leave the Treasury short.

Perhaps the most likely area of further wheezes will be to find ways of advancing other tax payments. For example, at the moment there is little incentive for people to pay their tax early. They are charged in

interest if they pay it late. Why allow reductions only if paid a few months early, not by some complex system of buying tax certificates, but simply by allowing a straight deduction?

That is one tiny notion which probably will not be used. But that is not the point. The point is that the Government must hunt for ways of collaring tax earlier, just as it did with VAT.

Should companies not have even greater incentives to pay their tax early? Is not the whole notion of a tax-cutting season in the first months of the calendar year absurd? The way the tax take is, so to speak, backed and loaded towards the end of the calendar year, messes up the money supply figures, which is a nuisance anyway. But it makes no logical sense either.

Oil production falls below agreed 16mbd

Opec output cut puts pressure on prices

By John Hooper, Energy Correspondent

The combined output of Opec's member states has for the first time fallen below the production ceiling of 16 million barrels per day which the organisation set for itself last October.

The output comes at a time of high demand brought about by the cold weather which swept through Western Europe and is now affecting North America. Together, these two factors could well lead to a further increase in prices on the free or 'spot' market over the next few weeks.

Estimates of the level of Opec's production vary widely. The New York-based Petroleum Intelligence Weekly yesterday calculated that it was in the region of 15.5-15.9 million barrels a day. The Middle East Economic Survey, published in Moscow, put it at only 14 million barrels per day. But neither of these respected trade papers believed that the limit was now being breached, as it has been ever since it was introduced.

The International Energy Agency, which represents the oil-consuming nations, has estimated that the non-Communist world will need an average of 19.5 million barrels per day of Opec oil this quarter.

Even if a wide gap has opened up between supply and demand — and it would take a week or so for the effects to be felt on the open market — the oil companies could bridge it for a while by running down

their stocks. However, their reserves have already been depleted by de-stocking at the end of last year, and they are now being forced to raise the price of oil they lug for their refineries.

There comes a point at which the companies are reluctant to dig into their reserves any further and everything suggests that that point is fast approaching, although a let up in the cold weather over America would probably avert a surge in spot prices.

Opec's overall output has been kept down primarily because of the restraint shown by Saudi Arabia which, as the organisation's swing producer, is committed to absorbing the overproduction of other members, and drastic cuts by Iran. The Middle East Economic Survey reckoned that Iran's output was running at about half its capacity — verdict endorsed by analysts in London.

The Iranians are apparently trying to ensure that when Opec oil ministers meet next week in Geneva they cut the organisation's 'marker' price — Saudi Light — by the smallest possible margin. Most of their own oil is of a similar grade to Saudi Light and any cut in the price would affect them severely. They desperately need revenue to finance their war with Iraq and yet they are already being forced to discount in order to compensate customers for the extra insurance charges they have to pay on tankers loading

up at Iran's Kharg Island terminal.

But even though prices may harden in the short term, long term contracts — and in particular the steady growth of non-Opec output — favour a hefty cut in the price of the 'marker'. A 50 cent reduction from the present level of \$29 a barrel, such as has been rumoured for several weeks, would not impress the market where — in spite of the weather — crudes of most kinds are still trading at well below official prices.

A related problem is that the official prices of the various sorts of crude now bear little relationship to their real values. Last month, in an attempt to bring their price structure more into line with reality, Opec's oil ministers agreed, as a temporary measure, to raise the prices of heavy and medium grades by 25 cents a barrel and reduce that of extra lights by 25 cents.

A committee of officials set up to study the problem in advance of next week's meeting yesterday ended two days of talks in Riyadh. The Saudi oil minister, Youssef Yamani, who chaired the talks, said afterwards that they had made 'remarkable' progress towards agreement.

But there were indications that the meetings, which were also attended by the Nigerian oil minister, Professor Tam David-West, had been stormy. One source described them as 'difficult' but 'amicable'.

Brothers buy into Union Carbide

From Alex Brummer in Washington

IN A MOVE which should help shore up confidence in the battered fortunes of Union Carbide, it has been disclosed that the Bass brothers of Texas have acquired a 5.4 per cent stake in the company for nearly \$150 million.

The Bass brothers' acquisition signifies that the group of investors they lead believes there will be life for Union Carbide after it has settled the thousands of claims which have arisen from the Bhopal chemical disaster.

Union Carbide lawyers met in New York last Friday with India's attorney-general, Mr K. Parasaram, who is in the US to discuss the possibility of making certain Bhopal-related claims in the American courts.

The Bass brothers are among America's richest families, and recently collected hundreds of millions of dollars in profit when they sold their 'investment' stake in the oil giant Texaco to the company. More recently they have been active investors and participants in the Disney Corporation, which has come under siege from financier Mr Saul Steinberg.

As heirs to the Texas oil-cattling fortune of the legendary Sid Richardson, whose proteges included President Lyndon Johnson, the Bass brothers are prodigious investors and traders in shares. They have often put their money into seemingly vulnerable companies, seeing profit opportunities in high-risk situations.

Their investments tend largely to be for trading purposes rather than for building a business, unlike those of the developers of Fort Worth in Texas who have shown staying power in the town which is the base for their investment operations across the nation.

The Bass brothers purchased their 3.9 million shares in Union Carbide in the period since December 11. The shares were bought at a price of \$34.66 to \$38.55 at a total cost of between \$121.3 million to \$148.6 million. In its statement to the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Bass-led investment group said it was making the purchase for 'investment purposes'.

The brothers' purchases began shortly after the chairman of Union Carbide returned from Bhopal, where he had been briefly arrested, and pronounced that the disaster — which resulted in the loss of more than 2,000 lives — would not have a material effect on the group's finances. In the intervening period, the company's shares had fallen sharply from above \$50 a share.

Not surprisingly, Union Carbide welcomed the Bass brothers' decision to buy a stake, a move which almost certainly kept the share price up at a time when it would otherwise have dipped further. A spokesman said it 'was pleased that sophisticated investors' recognised the investment value of its stock.

The founders of Grantech Robotics are Tony Best, a consultant engineer who designed the robot after being prompted by an adhesive manufacturer, and Paul Best, a business consultant. They joined forces two years ago and built the prototype in the living room and garage of the Best household. At Huddersfield, Hertfordshire, and employ one salesman and a few part-time mechanics.

Mr Best said their £200,000 had come from the company, with government backing. In addition they had received a £50,000 government research grant. The Polar is claimed to provide accuracy in its glue-dropping to 0.05 of a millimetre.

Pointers change their direction

By Christopher Hubbs, Economics Editor

The Central Statistical Office admitted yesterday, much to its official embarrassment, that there was now no clear evidence of a renewed recession early this year, as it had previously suggested.

Its leading indicators, the collection of economic indices which are meant to predict turning points in the economy rose further at the end of last year, in one case reversing the declines which set in from early 1984.

The longer leading index, which adds together such figures as changes in interest rates and the stock market with changes in business optimism from CBI questionnaires, is meant to predict turning points a year ahead.

It rose by 1.8 per cent in

December to a new peak of 109.8 (1980=100), completely wiping out the downturn from March to July 1984 which was the main reason for the CSO's previously pointing to a 1985 recession.

The shorter leading index, which adds together consumer credit, car registrations, the change in new orders reported by the CBI and so forth, is meant to indicate turning points about six months in advance.

However, the shorter leading index turned down two months before the longer leading index, when it should have followed it by six months, and went on dropping until August last year. It is now nearly back to its peak level of 105.7 in January 1984 after a rise of 0.9 per cent in November to 105.7.

The CSO has recently pointed out that the inconsis-

tency between the two indicators makes the timing of the next cyclical peak uncertain, but it has now gone further and admitted that there is no clear evidence of a 1985 turning point.

This is in line with the Government and most independent economic forecasters, who do not rely on the CSO's leading indicators. Though there is a debate about whether this year's underlying growth rate will be higher or lower than last year's, there is large agreement that the recovery of output will continue but at too slow a pace to reduce unemployment.

It is clear that the present upturn, though weak and from a very low base, is not the last one that any other, since the war, it has continued for 44 months since the official trough in May 1981, compared to 45 months for the recovery after 1979.

The rise of output also seems less vulnerable to a recession spurred by companies deciding to meet their demand from their stocks of goods rather than from new put-a-traditional source of business cycle fluctuations since there has been little build-up of stocks during the recovery.

This is not the first time that contradictory readings given by the leading indicators have misled the longer leading index showed a marked downward trend throughout 1984 but the economy went on growing until 1979.

A spokesman admitted yesterday that it seemed that the leading indicators were giving a false signal but that the statistics could not be certain. The plan was to continue publishing the leading indicators.

By Margaret Pagnon

The lead banks overseeing the consortium of 38 banks to support a large-scale bid for Dunlop Holdings yesterday described the terms of the £30 million bid from BTR as unacceptable.

National Westminster, one of the lead banks, said BTR's offer was 'categorically' not supported by the banks. Dunlop Holdings yesterday described the terms of the £30 million bid from BTR as unacceptable.

Barclays lent its weight to the statement but said it had nothing further to say. While the banks may not agree with the BTR's offer terms — which values Dunlop shares at 20p cash — they did not criticise BTR's surprise intervention. With shares in Dunlop unchanged yesterday at 36p, it is widely believed that the banks would not be opposed to higher offer terms from BTR.

One of the conditions of BTR's offer is that the bank convert £100 million of its loans to Dunlop into BTR preference shares and that it continue to provide borrowing facilities of £30 million. Under the reconstruction package proposed by Dunlop's chairman, Sir Michael Edwards, the 38 banks would end up controlling some 40 per cent of the group's equity by converting part of their debts. The lead banks — the big four clearers — would own some 10 per cent of this and it is likely they would prefer to take the risk of paper in BTR than Dunlop.

BTR's merchant bank advisers Morgan Grenfell had no immediate comment to make on the banks' statement.

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

The chairman of the French state-owned car manufacturer, Renault, the largest industrial employer in the country, is to resign, immediately, on the day of record losses in 1984.

It was announced yesterday that Mr Bernard Hanon, whose contract was renewed only six months ago, will leave Renault today. The group is expected to announce losses for 1984 of nine billion French francs (£825 million) very shortly, compared with a deficit in 1983 of 1.58 billion francs (£143 million).

Mr Hanon, who has so far failed to reduce Renault's 92,000 workforce, will be replaced by Mr Georges Besse, the chairman of the state-controlled metals group, Pechiney, who is seen as possessing a more determined attitude toward labour problems.

Attempts by Renault last year to impose a plan which would have led to the workforce being cut by almost 10 per cent provoked a series of strikes which further damaged the group's earnings. In December, Mr Hanon announced that the group would have the least proceed with a scheme to reduce its employment level by 8,500 jobs.

Last year, the French car industry as a whole was badly affected by a collapse in domestic sales which fell by 13 per cent from 1983's level but Renault suffered to an even greater extent than its leading competitors.

Its sales slumped by 23.1 per cent, almost double the national average and more than twice the decline experienced by the other leading domestic manufacturers. Peugeot Over the past two years Renault's share of the French new car market has fallen from 40 per cent to 31 per cent.

Importers' share of the French market dipped by only 4.4 per cent last year. The fall in sales in the market overall stemmed from the tough austerity and anti-inflation measures.

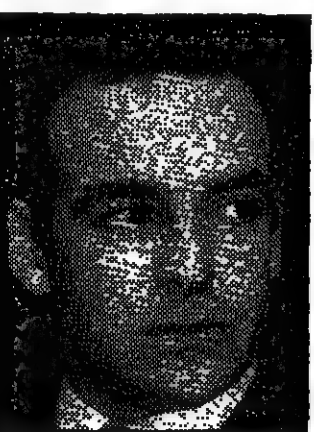
But the scale of Renault's own losses are imperilling France's economic plans. The group's anticipated 1984 losses alone equal two thirds of the total sum the Government is prepared to put up for capital investment by all state-owned firms during the current year.

Acorn statement today

By Peter Large, Technology Correspondent

Acorn, the Cambridge home computer company whose shares fell further yesterday from 51p to 43p, is to announce its future plans this afternoon. Last night Acorn's co-founder and managing director, Mr Chris Curry, denied any possibility of the firm going out of business.

Acorn's main UK rival, Sinclair Research, is cutting £50 from the price of its Spectrum Plus and raising production to 200,000 computers a month. The new recommended retail price is £129.95, a move to stop selling in Britain the earlier ZX Spectrum, of which about two million have been sold worldwide.



Christopher Curry

Sir Clive Sinclair, the company chairman, said yesterday: 'The home computer market is currently entering a very vigorous phase and we anticipate strong competition from US manufacturers in particular.'

Sinclair did better than Acorn and the other top competitor, the American Commodore, in Britain's third and presumably final big Christmas sales rush. Till now, the UK's unique home computer industry has enjoyed conditions unmatched anywhere else. Britain has more home computers per capita than any other nation.

But that market now looks certain to settle at lower levels — while the foreign competition strengthens. Therefore, Acorn and Sinclair are moving up market.

In the year to last July, Acorn made pre-tax profits of £10.8 million on a £93.16 million turnover.

Bunzl £55m cash call for expansion

By Geoffrey Gibbs

The fast-growing pulp and paper merchanting and distribution group Bunzl is laying the ground for a further round of takeover-led expansion by asking shareholders to inject almost £55 million of fresh capital into the business.

The group, which has been steadily reducing its dependence on the manufacture of cigarette filter materials, has spent some £57 million on the acquisition of 27 companies over the past five years and remains hungry for further expansion. Cigarette filters now account for only 20 per cent of profits compared with 80 per cent five years ago.

Mr James White, the driving force behind the recent revitalisation of the business, says the cash-raising move will give Bunzl a 'wide range' of options in the UK and overseas.

'We are looking to continue to grow both in distribution and merchanting, particularly in pulp and paper products,' the Bunzl managing director commented yesterday. 'We might consider moving a little away from what the market has got used to, but not so far as to cause people heartache. Target areas for further expansion are America, the UK, and the Far East, particularly Australia.'

Bunzl yesterday denied that it is talking to any UK-quoted company. But the cash-raising exercise gave a fillip to the shares of Metal Closures, where the group holds a near

5 per cent stake, and to the bearings and electronic components distributor Bramer, where it has a 41 per cent interest. Mr White acknowledged that the group has undisclosed holdings in 'one or two' other UK public companies.

Bunzl is raising the new money by offering shareholders one new share at 370p for every four shares they own already — a discount of 17 per cent on yesterday's opening stock market price.

The cash call — the first made since Bunzl went public in 1957 — was well received in the City where Bunzl shares shot up 35p to 489p in response to news of the decline in profits and a 36 per cent increase in the dividend. Shareholders are promised a final dividend of £2.5 a share on the enlarged share capital.

Following a 53 per cent rise in first half profits the Bunzl directors estimate that the group ended 1984 with a pre-tax surplus of not less than £27 million — an increase of at least 55 per cent on the previous year.

The estimated profit was reached after taking account of a £755,000 provision arising from the impact of the decline in sterling on forward dollar contracts.

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A TWO-MAN British company, with only £500,000 behind them, yesterday launched an industrial robot, built in a suburban living room, which they claim fits a fast-growing market niche that no one else has filled.

Their claim was supported later by a leading roboticist, yet the new company is geared to making only half a dozen machines a year, and most has no plans to look outside Britain for at least the next six to nine months.

The new robot, called Polar, can be programmed for a variety of tasks but is aimed particularly at applying the new super-glues to industrial components in ce-

Euro Ferries cuts former P & O jobs

By Geoffrey Gibbs

More than 100 former P & O employees are to lose their jobs at Southampton following the recent takeover of the company's cross-Channel ferry operations by European Ferries.

The enlarged Euro Ferries operation intends to run more than 6,000 extra sailings this year to meet an anticipated boom in motorist holidays to the Continent. But it is looking for further redundancies within the former P & O operation.

The group has decided it will require two ships on the Dover-Boulogne route, compared with the three previously operated by P & O, and it seems as though 200 of 710 sea-going and shore-based jobs on the route will be axed.

Decisions are meanwhile continuing over manning levels on the two former P & O ships operating on the Portsmouth-Le Havre and Portsmouth-Cherbourg routes.

European Ferries acquired the five-strong P & O ferries fleet together with its 1,100

Renault chief resigns

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

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But the scale of Renault's own losses are imperilling France's economic plans. The group's anticipated 1984 losses alone equal two thirds of the total sum the Government is prepared to put up for capital investment by all state-owned firms during the current year.

Midland's buyout of Crocker signed

By Maggie Bawa

Midland Bank's long-awaited deal to buy out the minority shareholders in Crocker National of California has now been signed, the bank announced yesterday. It will take Midland's holding from 57 per cent to 100 per cent. Shareholders in both companies have to approve the deal before it becomes final and meetings are expected to take place towards the end of April.

The buyout was announced last summer, but the terms were revised upwards in the autumn on the insistence of property deal that had been only to be cut back again by Midland when Crocker announced

huge fourth-quarter write-offs and losses. The deal also depends on settlement of litigation by discontented Crocker shareholders, although the force of these actions may be diminished by the scale of Crocker's losses.

Crocker shareholders will get \$27 in face value of a new Crocker adjustable rate preferred stock for every ordinary share they currently own. Midland is also injecting new capital into Crocker.

Meanwhile, Midland is still working on disposals of other interests, including a stake in the finance group Investors in Industry.

By Maggie Bawa

Mr John Silkin, the Labour MP for Deptford who is fighting a reselection battle was yesterday involved in the complicated process of buying out of a proposed £200 million property deal that had been only to be cut back again by Midland when Crocker announced

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Silkin bows out of deal

By Maggie Bawa

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huge fourth-quarter write-offs and losses. The deal also depends on settlement of litigation by discontented Crocker shareholders, although the force of these actions may be diminished by the scale of Crocker's losses.

Crocker shareholders will get \$27 in face value of a new Crocker adjustable rate preferred stock for every ordinary share they currently own. Midland is also injecting new capital into Crocker.

Meanwhile, Midland is still working on disposals of other interests, including a stake in the finance group Investors in Industry.

By Maggie Bawa

Mr John Silkin, the Labour MP for Deptford who is fighting a reselection battle was yesterday involved in the complicated process of buying out of a proposed £200 million property deal that had been only to be cut back again by Midland when Crocker announced

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE FINANCIAL institutions — particularly pension funds and unit trusts — sharply resumed their investment in overseas assets last year, according to Central Statistical Office figures published yesterday.

The turnaround from net selling — or repatriation — of £208 billion of overseas assets in the second quarter of last year, according to Central Statistical Office figures published yesterday.

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FINANCIAL GUARDIAN

How the superstars won City support

Peter Rodgers, Margaret Pagano and Hamish McRae chart the rise in popularity of the British conglomerate

BTR is poised to make another great leap in size by taking over Dunlop. Hanson Trust is ready to gobble Powell Duffryn. The P & O Sterling merger is about to be consummated.

Quite suddenly it seems to be the reborn age of the conglomerate, that ugly word used to describe giant companies whose activities do not easily fall into any one sphere of activity.

If the word is ugly, so are its connotations. If you look back to the great names of the 1970s, when the conglomerate trend was most evident in the United States, you will find that few are now successful, that some have disappeared, and even the "brand leader," the mighty ITT, is now breaking itself up.

We are seeing in our new British conglomerates (a term they would hate) a set of rather different companies. What they have in common, with a couple of exceptions, is that they are managerially-driven. That is, they are perceived by the stock market to have the quality of a superstar management.

This makes it possible for them to grow very rapidly, by using the support of their banks, and their own power, to take over sleepy or un-lucky companies which can be made by better management to produce significantly better results.

In character, the new British conglomerates vary tremendously. Several are run by people who are on the verge of becoming household names because of their constant takeover activity.

Hanson Trust, run by Lord Hanson, and its US offshoot Hanson Industries, run by the more flamboyant Sir Gordon White, have turned what was once the rump of a nationalised bus company into a powerful, multi-branch conglomerate of the bunch.

Yet it is very different from the asset stripping predators of the 1960s and 1970s. After the initial stock treatment, a bid, a management buy-out, and a restructuring of a target company, the conglomerate tends to stay with its acquisitions and build them back up again.

British Ever Ready, the battery giant, has been back to the wall when Hanson took it over in 1981 but last

year raised its profits 50 per cent to £32 million.

Lord Hanson appears to have found the recipe for combining stock market acumen and wheeler dealing — he recently hired a senior corporate finance executive from Schroders, the merchant bank — with a genuine ability to motivate and run a good management team, which marks him out from the pure deal makers of a decade ago. But like the dismal record of the giant ITT since its inception, Harold Gessen, stepped down in 1978, there is a question mark over the future of a company like Hanson Trust if Lord Hanson ever makes a serious mistake, or leaves a vacuum.

Many in the City would name Sir Owen Green at BTR as the nearest equivalent to Lord Hanson, because of his aggressive pursuit of profitable growth. Sir Owen himself dismisses the conglomerate tag on the grounds that most of his products are linked by market or technology.

But although many of its products are rooted in manufacturing, BTR's expansion over the last two decades has taken it increasingly into new markets where often there has been no burning industrial logic.

For example, in 1983 it acquired another conglomerate, the Tilling group, while not dangerously successful, was regarded in the City as a sleepy. By backing BTR rather than the Tilling conglomerate, City institutions made it clear that only business management skills at the top does a conglomerate or industrial holding company deserve to survive.

Dunlop would bring BTR another set of new consumer products, which could dovetail with some of the Tilling consumer parts while there is synergy from the rubber interests.

Profit is BTR's driving force and an end in itself. BTR's success has been to take maximum profit from the businesses it has taken over through a highly centralised management philosophy which has given management a large degree of autonomy. Indeed, if BTR fits into the conglomerate mould, it is because it is managerially driven.

Rather like Hanson Trust,



Conglomerate kings: Hanson, Green, Sterling and (below) Brookes

How they perform. Figures in £ millions

	Market capitalisation	Latest full year	Pre-tax profits	Brokers forecast
BAT	5,178.0	1,848	879	1,225
BTR	3,621.1	1,970	206	270**
Hanson	2,268.5	2,362.3	189	230
Heron	—	887.7	25.8	—
Imps	1,520.1	2,356	195.3	—
Lonrho	437.4	2,368	113.2	—
P & O	863.7	1,509	73.1	84
Sterling	1,096	1,613	113.2	133

* Assuming merger goes through

** BTR forecast

BTR makes money from mundane products which had not been fully recognised by previous managers. After every acquisition there is an obvious lead time before that profit comes through. It is, perhaps, only through takeovers that the BTR machine can keep up the impetus and there must come a point when the powerhouse slows down.

The same qualification applies forcefully to Heron Corporation, run by the brilliant Gerald Brookes, whose family controls it tightly. Though not yet in the size league as the rest, it has the growth record and spread of interests to qualify.

Neither Sir Owen nor Lord Hanson have achieved the household name status of Mr Tiny Rowland, whose Lonrho is a conglomerate with turnover of over £2 billion, ranging from mining to car distribution. But it is, only unusually, into the same classification as Hanson or BTR. Lonrho's recent growth and profits record has been patchy and the City has been puzzled about its chief executive's preoccupation with the saga of Fraser.

A quite separate style of building company has been built up by Sir Nigel Brookes at Trafalgar House, which has moved from property through housebuilding and shipping into engineering and construction. In fact, the group splits more clearly into a few identifiable broad lines in engineering and construction, transport, shipping and tourism, and property development. But its cash strength and its aggressive expansion and acquisition, though largely in areas it already knows, qualifies Sir Nigel for the same league as Hanson and BTR.

To add P & O Sterling Guarantee trust to the list of high-fliers would have seemed absurd a few months ago. After all, P & O was a giant, but run-down shipping company with grave problems. But a reference to the Monopolies Commission saved P & O for six months, and by the time the bid had been given the go-ahead, the new chairman (now Sir Jeffrey Sterling) had had time to win investor confidence that he would start getting to grips with P & O's problems.

Now P & O is being merged with Sir Jeffrey's own property and services group, Sterling Guarantee. The market is beginning to talk of a new BTR being formed. It is far too early to say with any confidence whether this

status can be achieved or sustained. But Sir Jeffrey is regarded as a managerial superstar. It is justifies the market judgment in two or three years P & O could indeed be on an aggressive, takeover track.

There is another breed of British conglomerate emerging, the mature firm, casting around for ways to secure its future. These are not run by superstars, and they are able to harness huge cash flows to buy their diversification targets.

BAT grew into one of the world's biggest tobacco companies. Over the years it has generated high cash flows. Only lately did the BAT management recognise that its tobacco business had reached near maturity.

Some of the diversifications which followed — such as retailing — have not proved particularly successful. Others, such as the Eagle Star purchase for nearly £1 billion and the Life for £800 million plus — are purely the result of finding a home for its huge cash flow.

On a much smaller scale — it has a fifth the turnover of the old Imperial Tobacco — is also struggling to diversify though even less successfully.

What has made the British

stock market so enthusiastic about the new breed of conglomerates, with notable exceptions such as Imps and before Green arrived — Thomas Tilling? In the US, conglomerates now have a bad name, and the fashions of the 1960s and 1970s, Ling-Temco-Vought, Litton, Textron, ITT and the rest are regarded as has-beens.

Some were built up on paper mountains and ran into trouble when recession arrived. Others, notably ITT, developed elaborate and almost mystical management styles which were enshrined in Fortune magazine, but became as complex that it could not cope. By the time Harold Gessen retired from ITT at the end of the 1970s, the company was overdue for a retrenchment.

Britain has had its share of paper mountains, such as the notorious Slater Walker over a decade ago. Are the new conglomerates more durable?

Their rapid recent growth has been helped enormously by the rise in the stock market. A big premium is built into the shares of Hanson and BTR because of the City's faith in the abilities of management stars, which in itself is a weakness. Lord Hanson from his company, and the City may wonder what it has left, with disastrous consequences for the ratings.

But there are substantial differences from the old breed of conglomerate because the new British version has grown up against a more measured background. They are to an important extent the result of enthusiastic backing by institutions such as insurance companies and pension funds for anyone with the ability to put their stamp on some of the inspiring companies which still abound in British industry.

Institutions rarely resort to direct action if they are unhappy with a company. Their moment comes when faced, for example, with bid fight between Sir Patrick Meany of Thomas Tilling and Sir Owen Green of BTR. They choose the latter because they believed he is the better manager.

Will it stop if the stock market turns? The new super-managers could theoretically continue to enjoy the same premium over market prices as they do now, at a lower level. Their Achilles heels are not the level of the stock market so much as their reliance on small, tightly knit teams. City faith would evaporate if the teams were dispersed or if they had a major failure.

Rosemary Collins reports on the misuse of a skin ointment

A rash of complaints

CONSUMER COLUMN

A SIMPLE, frequently prescribed ointment for the commonest of the chronic childhood ailments is putting patients at risk of permanent disfigurement because it is widely misused.

The misuse arises both because many doctors prescribe it in over-large quantities or over too long a period of time, and because patients slap it on their skin too lavishly, believing no cream or ointment can be truly harmful.

The ointment is a steroid and the condition for which it is almost universally prescribed is eczema, which affects one in 20 of school age and under in Britain, and a smaller, but still significant number of adults.

Steroid creams and ointments are safe and valuable when properly used, although they do not treat the root causes of eczema and are not therefore a cure, the National Eczema Society points out. They do relieve the main symptom of the condition, which is an inflamed and itchy skin.

Their danger lies in their widespread misuse, according to the Society, which has now written to the major manufacturers of steroid creams and ointments begging for better, clearer labelling and some highly visible warning that such drugs are potentially damaging.

Prolonged or excessive use of such preparations leads to thinning of the skin, and a greater liability to infection. The National Eczema Society has put together a casebook of complaints from patients who have been disfigured permanently by steroid creams.

The only instructions ever given were to use twice a day in the morning and evening," one woman wrote. "I have continued to use this cream ever since as a make-up base and in the quantity that you would use a cold cream. I was never told to use it sparingly."

"Between the ages of 13 and 15 the doctor prescribed the cream, without informing me or my mother, of any risks," another wrote to the

Society. "From that time I have suffered from stretch marks and the appearance of many blood vessels lying below the skin, which are, needless to say, unsightly."

"For over 20 years she has been prescribed one of these creams to use on her face and neck," a patient's mother said. "She wasn't told by her doctor what the results would be from using this ointment for a prolonged period. Her skin at the moment is in bad condition, the broken veins on her face and neck are almost impossible to conceal."

And so the complaints go on, all following the same theme. "Firstly, the cause is careless prescribing," says the National Eczema Society. "Doctors often hand out unnecessarily strong preparations in excessive amounts, sometimes without adequate examination or re-examination of the patient and without adequate guidance on their proper use or warnings of their side effects."

"The second cause is a similar failure by pharmaceutical companies to print adequate guidance and warnings on their packaging."

In recent years, an attempt by the Society to draw attention to the dangers of misuse of steroid creams and ointments and a parallel effort by many leading dermatologists to warn their patients, has brought a new problem.

Some patients, and particularly the parents of young child patients, have begun to refuse to use steroid creams at all, thereby losing valuable relief from their illness. This upsets the N.E.S. almost as much as over-use.

"What we want is clear guidance and warnings on the packaging of these preparations, so that patients can get the maximum benefit from them, compatible with long-term health and well-being," the Society says. "We would also like the companies to include in their boxed tubes a leaflet setting out in plain language the proper use of these preparations and the consequences of improper use."

"Some steroid manufacturers have already begun a campaign to inform doctors about the proper use and dangers of the product," the Society adds, "and we feel it is time they extended this advice to patients too."

EDUCATION GUARDIAN

HUMBERSIDE COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Grade VI, £17,397 — £19,170 per annum

Required to head a major department teaching a range of courses including CNAH Honours degree programmes and supporting industry through an active research and consultancy programme.

Further particulars may be obtained from: Personnel Office, Humberside College of Higher Education, Cottingham Road, Hull HU6 7RT. Telephone (0482) 446506. Closing date 18th February, 1985.

Temporary LII/Senior Lecturer Post (5 or 6 Terms) in Business and Management Studies

Applications are invited for a temporary full-time post (5 or 6 Terms) in the Department of Business and Management Studies. The duties associated with this post are:

1. To contribute towards a team approach to the teaching of "Business Environment" in the BTEC Higher Diploma and Certificate programmes.
2. To teach "organisational behaviour in business" primarily to management courses.

Candidates should possess a good honours degree in Economics or Behavioural Science and an appropriate professional qualification would be an advantage. The appointment will be for a period of 5 or 6 terms commencing at 1st April 1985 or 1st September 1985 and terminating at 31st March, 1987.

Application forms and further details of the post and the College are available from: The Assistant Director (Staffing), Crewe & Alsager College of Higher Education, Alsager ST7 2HL.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS, JAPAN

CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH SCHOOLS PROJECT

International Language Centres, on behalf of Suntory Cambridge School Limited and the British Council, are recruiting two teams of teachers for two year contracts in their Tokyo and Kyoto schools from April 1985.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS

Teachers of EFL with a minimum of three years' TEFL experience, a degree and the RSA Diploma, or an equivalent post-graduate qualification in TEFL, are invited to join the staff of this new and exciting EFL project in Japan.

A salary of 288,000 Yen per month, plus an annual bonus of 576,000 Yen with return airfares, housing and baggage allowances and medical cover is included. For an application form and further details, please contact:

Personnel Department, International Language Centres, 9 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0DD. Telephone: 01-580 4351

PAISLEY COLLEGE

A Scottish Central Institution

STUDENTS ASSOCIATION MANAGER

A vacancy has arisen for the post of Students Association Manager which will be based in the Students Union building which is a quarter of a mile from the main college campus.

- The Manager will be primarily responsible for:
- (1) the smooth running of a building providing catering, bars, shops and other entertainments and services for college students, and
 - (2) the provision of administrative support for the Students Association and assisting the President of the Students Association with the implementation of the Association's policies.

The successful candidate will have experience of management at an equivalent level in an educational or commercial environment. Salary scale: AP 34 £7,404-£8,363 (review pending). Application forms and further particulars are available from the Personnel Office, Paisley College of Technology, High Street, Paisley PA1 2SE. Telephone number 041-587 1241, extension 230.

ADVISORY TEACHER FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION

Scale 4 — Required April 1985

A suitably qualified and experienced teacher to promote curriculum development in the area of girls' education in line with the Authority's commitment to equal opportunities in education. The successful applicant will be expected to have a particular expertise in one academic area, and it will be an advantage to offer science or technology.

London Allowance: £1038. Application forms/further particulars (p.s.e. please) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 5th February 1985. Director of Education, Education Office, 379/383 High Street, Stratford E15 4RD.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT & BUSINESS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (GRADE VI)

Applications are invited for the above post. The post involves responsibility for:

- (1) the academic development of the Honours degree and full-time Certificate in Accounting and Finance together with a wide range of professional courses including accountancy;
- (2) the operation, staff development, research and consultancy of a department which provides teaching of finance to a range of full-time and part-time courses throughout the Polytechnic;
- (3) developing and improving external relations of the department.

Candidates should be well qualified with a sound knowledge of finance and have a proven record of research and/or consultancy. Salary scale £17,397 — £19,170 p.a.

For further details and an application form, returnable by 11 February 1985, send a self-addressed envelope marked "B222" to the Secretary, Manchester Polytechnic, All Saints, Manchester M15 6PL.

MANCHESTER POLYTECHNIC

TEACHERS ESL

English as a second language teachers to teach in an intensive pre-university language program at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

Minimum qualifications: M.A. in TEFL or teaching Certificate in TEFL or Applied Linguistics plus a minimum of two years of teaching experience. Job starts in January 1985.

Please forward applications and curriculum vitae with the necessary documents to: Mr Hassan Salameh, 85/87 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6JD. Tel: 01-439 3746.

AWARDS FOR POST-GRADUATE STUDY IN HEALTH EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Health Education Council Fellowships

Applications are invited from individuals working in the fields of medicine, nursing, health visiting, dentistry, pharmacy, social and community work, education and health education, who are interested in expanding their knowledge and skills related to the health education aspects of their work. The Fellowship being awarded would provide financial support and registration fees for those wishing to pursue the one-year full-time M.Sc. in Community Medicine (Health Education Option) Course. Candidates must satisfy University entrance requirements.

Details of these, course information and application forms (returnable by February 15) are available from: Dr. L. Barle, Director, Unit for Health Education Studies, Department of Community Medicine, The University, Manchester M13 9PT.

SELF HELP NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

65 Melton Road, Leicester LE4 6PN

Tel. 053 568331

Require

Qualified and experienced full-time DETACHED YOUTH WORKER

The applicant should have experience of Youth Work in a multi-racial setting. An Asian language and driving licence will be advantageous.

Application forms available from the above address.

Closing date for applications February 15, 1985.

THE CANNING SCHOOL

We run intensive courses in English and communication skills for foreign corporate personnel and professional people. We have five centres (three in London, one in Bath and one in Milan) and we run tailored courses for companies all over Europe. We create our own teaching methods and materials. We are expanding and need people to join our teaching teams in Britain and Italy. We are looking for graduates aged between 25 and 40 with business, industrial or training experience. They should be good communicators and have the ability to animate small groups. Previous experience of teaching English as a foreign language is useful, but not essential.

Paid training begins on 4th March. The starting salary is £9,000 p.a. (London). Staff pension and profit sharing schemes.

PLEASE RING 01-577 3221

DIY price-cutting squeezes Evode

By Tony May
When DIY superstore chains point to the "lowest price in town" for named brands, that is fine for everyone except the manufacturer, particularly if it is a brand leader. This the blind in which Evode group, the maker of Evo-Stick, glue finds itself.

Its adhesives and sealants division has to sell cheap to big customers and has found its margins under strong pressure. Profits, which could otherwise have reached £2.8 million for the year to September, therefore dropped from £2.5 million to £2.3 million.

This was a disappointment for the board as it had squeezed its turnover up from £46.1 million to £53.3 million, of which £3 million was contributed by acquisitions made during the year.

The dividend is up from 2.44p to 2.8p, but the share price has slipped from 118p to 113p on the results.

All the while the group's major retail customers adhere to their "pile 'em up, sell 'em cheap" operations, the group is stuck with low margins. What it is doing is to trim its costs, in the certain knowledge that all its competitors will be doing so as well.

Cost savings in the UK and Ireland have taken effect and with new acquisitions in the plumbing, paint and powder coatings fields expected to add about £600,000 to profits this year, the group could end 1982 with a profit of £3 million or more.

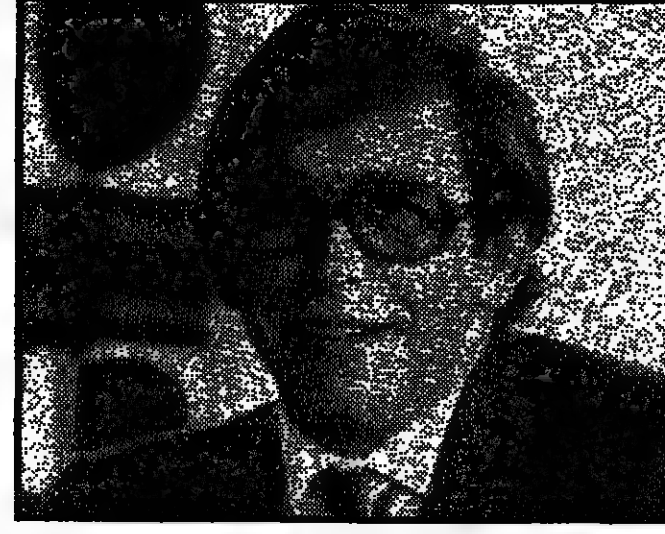
Certainly trading is off to a good start with the order book showing a 25 per cent in-

crease, recent acquisitions making a good contribution to the benefits of cost-cutting showing through.

Prices were raised in some products at the end of October and the group will try to increase others in the spring, but Mr Andrew Simon, the chairman and chief executive, knows that he cannot make up all the leeway lost on margins last year. "We hope we have limited the erosion and that we will start to get a little back," he says.

On the takeover front the group is treating this year as one of consolidation—unless "a golden opportunity comes along."

Chairman Mr Andrew Simon — "Limiting the erosion"



Magic 1000 survives bout of profit-taking and trend stays firm

THE MARKETS

Stock markets paused for breath yesterday after last Friday's late surge which took the FT index to over the 1000 level. The index managed to hold above this magic figure, but it proved to be a struggle as short-term investors took profits.

However, the underlying firm trend continued, illustrated by the number of special situations among secondary issues.

Leading shares were largely ignored apart from Glaxo, which jumped 45p to £12.25 helped by recent comment concerning the profits potential of the anti-ulcer drug Zantac, which is beginning to take off in Japan.

Glits were heartened by fresh support for the pound in foreign exchange markets. Rises were restricted to a quarter in the conventional stocks, but index-linked issues received a flurry of demand following the exhaustion of the "taplet" 24 per cent 2011.

Rises here stretched to around five-eighths.

Newspaper shares continued to find favour on the asset backing and takeover prospects. Fleet Holdings, where Robert Maxwell's stake was recently sold to United News, shot up 15p more to 262p on the news that U.N. will launch a full-scale offer. Associated News, which recently reported sharply higher profits, advanced 36p to 690p, a gain of almost 22 per cent since the announcement.

Elsewhere in the sector Bury announced a £4 million rights issue, but the shares were hoisted 35p to 483p as forecasts of a 55 per cent profit increase and a 35 per cent dividend hike. As the money was being raised for further acquisitions, there was immediate speculative interest for Metal Closures, up 10p to 162p, and Brammer, 18p higher at 313p, where Buzi is believed to have holdings of just below 5 per cent.

Newcastle's Food Group made a sparkling debut at 131p, a premium over the placing price of 36p. The shares touched 140p in early trading. One particularly weak spot was James Neill, 10p down to 135p, following last Friday's sale of Suter of his near 12 per cent stake. Stores, buildings and properties succumbed to light profit-taking, and banks failed to go anywhere. Adverse comment on composite insurance problems hit Gold shares registered a majority of small improvements to 50 cents.

Profit-taking trimmed P&O 13p to 403p, while BTR at 67p, although off the bottom eased back 5p from last Friday's impressive advance. Smaller falls

of 2p or 3p showed for Thorn EMI 451p, Associated Dairies 155p, GEC 210p, ICI 794p, and Grand Met 286p.

Reflecting investment buying Lucas rose 9p to 265p, while Plessey 204p, Hawker 449p, and Hanson Trust 345p all made an apiece. Dollar earnings potential directed buyers into Cookson up 22p to 510p and Christies International 22p higher at 156p. Observer sale rumours put 5p on Lonrho at 171p.

Profits down 8 per cent lowered Evode 5p at 113p, while profit worries undermined Barratt 49p lower at 78p. In contrast favourably mentioned was good for 8p on Advest at 385p. Among the best gains resulting from speculative activity were Burs Anderson 6p up to 50p, Vesper with a 15p advance at 156p, and Goldsmiths 12p higher at 210p.

Countdown on Hanson's sale rumours rose 3p to 140p, but fading bid hopes lowered Rowntree, 10p at 35p. The profits standstill left Restormer 5p easier at 110p, while profits 60 per cent higher helped Brooke Tool to a 3p rise at 27p.

Ahead of today's interim Stone International eased 3p at 180p. Saudi compensation hopes put 5p on Westland at 141p, while fresh consideration of the bumper profits last week gave 8p up to Electronic Machine at 50p.

Ahead of today's interim, Hanson Industries climbed 3.245p to 23p. Favourable comment put 4p on Helt Lloyd at 54p, while the scrip proposals for the consortium bid hopes again directed investors into W. H. Smith showing a 6p rise at 214p.

Meanwhile the consortium stake in Millard Decks lifted the shares 3p to 59p. Press mention helped UKO International to a 5p rise at 115p, but reports of languishing home computer sales depressed Acorn 5p lower at 43p.

In contrast, recent good figures boosted Body Shop 30p to 650p, while recent chairman's letter endorsing helped Hemmerson's Administration to a 4p rise at 645p. Among dual listings Guardian Royal was a particularly weak spot after recent adverse mention, losing 15p at 860p. Elsewhere, Brikat, following investment demand, rose 14p to 300p.

Main changes: H. Brammer 15p, up 18p; Buntel 48p, up 35p; James Neill 135p, up 5p; cent on year.

Associated News 690p, up 35p; Fleet Holdings 252p, up 19p; Glaxo 1225p, up 45p; P & O 403p, down 15p; Lucas 265p, up 9p.

Turnover for Friday, January 18, was: number of bargains 25,279; value £437,916 million.

Frankfurt: Despite this trading, dealers said the basic tone of the equities market remained solid. They characterized the day's weakness as a mild technical reaction to recent, record highs.

The DAX closed at 1,068.4, up 1.5 points to a new post-war record of 1,068.4.

Paris: Shares finished mixed to narrowly higher in moderate trading. Traders said the market drifted aimlessly for most of the session, with the reinforcement of dividend payments providing a slight upward bias. Firms on foreign stock markets were also cited as a mildly positive factor. The general market indicator finished the session with a gain of 0.15 per cent, advancing to 1,964.56, down by a margin of 89 to 56 with 21 French stocks unchanged.

Tokyo: Prices renewed a record closing high. Blue chips may have been bolstered somewhat by the recent agreement in Washington last week among finance ministers and central bank governors to reaffirm coordinated intervention in the foreign exchange markets, one broker said. The market advanced to 1,964.56, down by a margin of 89 to 56 with 21 French stocks unchanged.

Hong Kong: Shares dropped in moderate trading, but managed to finish on the day's lows. A broker said there were signs the market might revive later in the week. Hang Seng index: 1,350.00 (1,340.33).

Money markets: Maturities from six to 12 months fell 1/16 to 1 per cent, the 3-month rate, tried to go easier, but the "ones" were not able to shift because of the pull from money shortage, and the other rates turned up again slightly in the middle.

FT Ordinary Share Index down 0.5 at 1003.3. FTSE 100 index up 1.1 at 1279.4. Pound: \$1.253; DM: 3.56; ¥: 10.32. Gold: \$377.50. Account: Jan. 1983 14.4 to 2.77. All Shares index up 1.69 at 616.6. Sterling index 71.3 (1976=100). RPI 131p, up 18p; Buntel 48p, up 35p; James Neill 135p, up 5p; cent on year.

Commodities: Copper 31.24p per lb; tin 1,245p per lb; lead 1,245p per lb; zinc 1,245p per lb; nickel 1,245p per lb; silver 1,245p per lb; platinum 1,245p per lb; palladium 1,245p per lb; rhodium 1,245p per lb; iridium 1,245p per lb; osmium 1,245p per lb; ruthenium 1,245p per lb; technetium 1,245p per lb; yttrium 1,245p per lb; zirconium 1,245p per lb; niobium 1,245p per lb; molybdenum 1,245p per lb; chromium 1,245p per lb; manganese 1,245p per lb; iron 1,245p per lb; cobalt 1,245p per lb; nickel 1,245p per lb; copper 1,245p per lb; zinc 1,245p per lb; lead 1,245p per lb; tin 1,245p per lb; silver 1,245p per lb; platinum 1,245p per lb; palladium 1,245p per lb; rhodium 1,245p per lb; iridium 1,245p per lb; osmium 1,245p per lb; ruthenium 1,245p per lb; technetium 1,245p per lb; yttrium 1,245p per lb; zirconium 1,245p per lb; niobium 1,245p per lb; molybdenum 1,245p per lb; chromium 1,245p per lb; manganese 1,245p per lb; iron 1,245p per lb; cobalt 1,245p per lb; nickel 1,245p per lb; copper 1,245p per lb; 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